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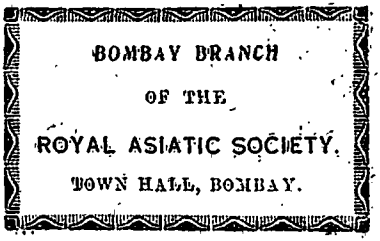

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SOCIAL LIFE IN FORMER DAYS.

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SOCIAL LIFE IN FORMER DAYS.

Second Series.

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ILLUSTRATED BY LETTERS AND FAMILY PAPERS.

BY E. DUNBAR DUNBAR,

(LATE) CAPTAIN 21ST FUSILIERS.

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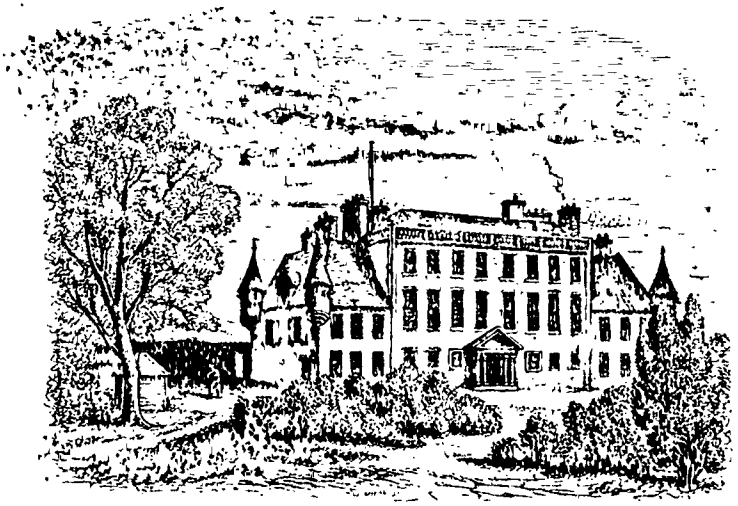

GORDONSTON.

EDINBURGH: EDMONSTON & DOUGLAS.

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PREFACE.

THE documents in this volume are from the same repositories as those in the former series; but, the majority of them being exceedingly difficult to decipher, it was not in my power to offer them sooner to the public; indeed, except for the kind welcome accorded to its predecessor, this second series would not have been published.

E. DUNBAR DUNBAR.

SEA PARK, *August* 1866.

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In p. 104, line 3, *for* 1644, *read* 1664.

I. FEUDS BETWEEN POWERFUL FAMILIES.

On the 18th of October 1577, John Innes, brother of the Laird of Innermarkie, with several accomplices, broke into the stables of the Deanery[1] of Moray, with the intention of carrying off the horses. The Dean, Alexander Dunbar, disturbed by the sudden confusion, came out unarmed, "except with his dirk, which he carried always," and was immediately attacked by one of the party, who not only wounded him severely, but also most cruelly killed his daughter, Elizabeth Dunbar, a girl of thirteen years of age. This horrible transaction was resented by all the Dunbars, but the Inneses defended their kinsmen, and as a great part of Moray then belonged to families of these two names, the consequences were most serious. At length the Earl of Sutherland and other influential persons induced the hostile parties to come to the following agreement:—

"At Clunie-Hills[2] besyd Forres, the 7th day of

[1] It stands near the Cathedral at Elgin, and is now called "North College."

[2] There is now a Hydropathic Establishment on one of these hills; the air, scenery, drives, etc., combine to make it a charming resort.

November the year of God 1578, it is appointit, concordit, and fynalie submitit and condescendit, betwix the wholl pairties heirefter specefit, that is to say, Lachlan M'Intosche of Dumachtyn and Robert Innes of Innermarkie, takand the burding on them for themselfs, thir kyn, freinds, assistars, alies, partakars, and all sic that has sustenit damnage or skayth in bodies, honors, or guids, in and for the causs efter-mentionat, on the ane pairt, and James Dunbar of Cumnock and Maister Alexander Dunbar, Dene of Morray, takand in lik wayes the burding on them for themselfs, ther kyn, freinds, assistars, partakers and alies, and all sic that has sustenit damnage or skayth in bodies, honors, or guids in the causs mentionat eftir, concernying thir presents, on the other pairt, in manyr, forme, and effect as eftir follows; that is to say, that (forsameikyll as ther is fallin out unnaturall and unkyndlie bluidshed comittit betwix the said pairties), for pecefeing and satisfaction of slachtyr and slachters done be aither of the pairties, and all other pies generallie, questiones or debatts done be aither to other before the day and date of thir presents, the said pairties has submittit them for reformation, reparating of aithers of ther honors, bluid, guids, and gear, be the sicht and jugment of the persones underwrettin, mutuallie chosin, ellectit, and nominat to that effect, for reparating of the honors, bluid, guids, and gear, or other skayth comitit be aither of the pairties to other, viz., ane

Reverend Fadyr in God George—Bishop of Morray, Robert Munro of Fowlis, Waltyr Urquhart—Sherriff of Cromartie, Alexander Faknar of Hakyrtowne, Johne Gordon of Cairnbro, and Andro Meldrum of Dumbrek, ellectit and nominat as newtrall freinds and amicabill compositers be aither of the foresaids pairties. And, to that effect, the foresaids newtrall freinds and amicabill compositers befor nominat, sall convene within the Brucht of Elgin, the xxiiij day of November instant, to ressaive aither of the saids clames, actiones, questiones, and debats; and the same to be presented to the saids Jugis, the said day and place, be newtralls instructed be aither of the pairties to resson on aither of ther causs; and the principill pairties to remane and not to compeir till the saids Jugis desyre and require them to heyr and sie the mattrs concludit be the saids Jugis be decreit; at which tyme the saids pairties, or aither of the saids, sall not convene bot with sic numyr of freinds and servands as the saids Jugis sall apoint and ordain allanerlie. With powir to the saids Jugis to prorogat day or days eftir the said xxiiij day of November instant, as they sall think guid, betwix the said xxiiij day of November instant and the fyftein of December nixt to cum. And, in case of varience betwix the saids Jugis in agreeing of the saids debats in aither of ther clame, has referit and given powir to the saids Jugis to electt and choise an Oversman be ther discresione; the whilk nominatione and electione

of the Oversman, the pairties forsaids acceptts, admitts, and alowis, as if he wer alredie nominat at the date of thir presents; and speciall, we nominat ane other in cace, as God forbyd and controll it, that ony of the Jugis befor nominat, beis of necessitie absent frae keping of the said day, be decess, heavie sekness, or ony other inevitabill rycht occasione; in that cace the Jugis appearing sall have powir to admitt and nominat others in thier place, which, ther admissione and nominatione, the pairties forsaids approves and ratefies the same. And in the meyne tyme bayth the saids pairties assures others with abstinance from all hosteletie till the finall conclusione, determinatione, and decreett of of the saids Jugis, *provydand alwayes, that untill the finall decreett be pronouncit be the forsaids Jugis, that nane of the Dunbarrs repare or resort be-east the Karne*[1] *of Kylbueak, except the sonnes of umquill Alexander Dunbar of Conzie; and syklyk that nane of the name of Innes sall repare within the Brucht of Forres, befor the forsaid day.* Whiell abstinence and assurance as forsaid, the forsaids pairties, submittand for them and ther forsaids, faythfullie promisses be the fayth and treuth of ther bodies, under paine of infamie, perjurie, and inhabilitie in all tymes cuming, to abyd, fulfill, and underly the decreett of

[1] The Cairn of Kilbuick was on the high road leading from Forres to Elgin,—four miles from the former, and six from the latter. Some years ago, it was demolished by a Goth, who used the stones in repairing the road.

the forsaids Jugis, in all pointes, haldand the same firme and stabill in all tyme cuming; provydand that if ony bearand the name of Dunbarr, or ther partakars forsaid, sall have occasione, be serving befor the Lords of Sessien, or chargit be our Soveraine Lord's Magestie's letters, in that cace it sall be leifull to them to obey; and, *provydand that they pass nocht thro the Brucht of Elgin*, they sall be harmless and skaithless in ther passing."

Some years after they had settled their feud with the Inneses, the Dunbars got into trouble with the Roses, a powerful Nairnshire sept. The lands of Dunphail, then belonging to Dunbar of Tarbet,[1] were, from their situation in the Brae of Moray, particularly liable to invasion, so the Laird applied to Lord Huntly for assistance; but before hostilities ended, the Roses burned the houses of Dunphail, Sanquhar, and Mundole, and killed Alexander Dunbar, younger of Tarbet.

[1] Tarbet is in the county of Ross, but the lairds generally resided in or near Forres, in the vicinity of which town they possessed the lands of Sanquhar and Mundole. They sold Tarbet to Sir John Mackenzie, father of the first Earl of Cromartie, about the year 1610, and were afterwards designated Dunbars of Dunphail. They continued landed proprietors in Moray until June 1740, when Lauchlan Dunbar of Dunphail was obliged to sell his estate to pay his late father's debts, which, it is said, were much augmented by a heavy fine imposed on him for having marched with his servants to Nairn, broken open the jail, and released one of his tenants, who had been imprisoned for "smuggling," that is, distilling whisky without the cognizance of the exciseman.

Huntly's bond of maintenance runs thus :—

"Be it kend till all men whome it effeirs, Wee George, Marquis of Huntlie, for the gryit favour, luiff, and guidwill of service, borne and done to our predicessours and us by umquill James Dunbar of Terbait, James Dunbar now of Terbait—his sone, and for the favour, guidwill, and service we understand and consaivs done, and to be done, to us be Alexander Dunbar, now appearand sone and air to James Dunbar, now of Terbait—his father, and for sundry uther goodlie, guid, and reasonable respectts moving us thairto, to have become bundin and obleisset, lykas, be the tenor heirof, faithfullie and trewlie binds and obleisses us and ours, to fortifie, concurr, assist, mantaine, and defend James Dunbar, now of Terbait, and Alexander Dunbar, his sone, appearand air forsaid, in thair lyfes, guids, geir, lands, heretages, tacks, roomes, and possessiones whatsomever, appertaining to thaim, thaire men, tennants, servands, kin, friendes, partaikars, assistars, and followars of them, baith be law and by[1] law, frae whatsomever thaire enemies, invaisors, and oppressours, present and to cum, and speciallie against thair enemies —broken men of the name of Rosse, and uthers thair assistars, according to law and justice, but[2] exceptione of persones. To the which, all and sundrie the pre-

[1] *By* here means *beyond.*

[2] *But* is often used for *without.* The motto of the Mackintoshes and of the Macphersons is *Touch not a cat but a glove.*

mises, we bind and obleiss us faithfullie and trewlie to observe, keep, and fulfill, during all the dayes of our lyfetime, to the said James Dunbar of Terbait, Alexander Dunbar, his son and appairand air, and thair forsaids. In witnes wherof, we haiff subscryvit this our letters of protectione and mantenance, with our hand, at Innernes, the 18th day of September ane thousand sax hundrethe yeair of God, before thir witnesses, Sir Thomas Gordon of Clunie, Knight, John Vauis of Lockslyne, and Robert Vauis, burgess of Innernes, his brother.

"GEORGE, MARQUIS OF HUNTLYE."

II. THE PLANTATION OF NOVA SCOTIA, AND KNIGHT-BARONETS THEREOF, 1625.

In the year 1621, King James VI. granted a considerable portion of the continent of North America to Sir William Alexander of Menstrie. The conveyance, which comprehended powers of an almost regal nature, was confirmed in 1625, by King Charles I., who was further pleased to institute the order of Knight-Baronets of Nova Scotia, and to confer that dignity on such gentlemen of good birth as should assist Sir William in the plantation of a colony in that country. Sir Robert Gordon of Kynmonowie,[1] second son of the twelfth Earl of Sutherland, and founder of the Morayshire family of Gordonston, was the first person created a Baronet of Nova Scotia, and he got a charter under the Great Seal, 28th May 1625, granting to him "All the sea-coast at the south-west part of land upon the eastmost side of that bay called Port de Mutoune (in Nova Scotia), and from thence going southward three miles along the coast, and from

[1] Sir Robert's mother, the Countess of Sutherland, was a daughter of the Earl of Huntly. Her first husband, the Earl of Bothwell, divorced her in order to marry Mary, Queen of Scots.

thence passing northward from the said sea-coast into the mainland, anent those three miles, till the quantity thereof extend to sixteen thousand acres of land, being always three miles in breadth, . . . and all erected in a full and free barony, called the Barony of Gordon, with power of Regality as above."

The price of a Baronetcy in 1625, appears to have been three thousand merks Scots, a sum equivalent to about one hundred and sixty-six pounds sterling.

"Be it kend to all men be thir present letters, Me, Sir William Alexander of Menstrie, Knight, Her Majestie's Heretable Lieutenant of the countrie and domynion of New Scotland, albeit that Sir Robert Gordon, Barronet, Gentleman in Ordinarie of His Majestie's Privie Chamber, as principall, and Sir Alexander Strachan, Barronet, of Thornton, as cautioner for him, be their band bearand date herof, are obleist to pay and deliver to me, my aires or assignies whatsoever, the soume of Three Thousand Merks, usuall money of the Kingdome of Scotland, as principall soume, upon the eleventh day of November next to cum, togidder with the soume of Three Hundreth Pounds, money forsaid, of liquidate expensess in caise of failzie, and that thereby I may uplift the said soume and apply the same to my use as I please, nevertheless, for the reguard I have to the well and furtherance of the plantation of the said countrie, and

whereby they may be the better encouraged to plant and cause inhabite their own particular bounds within the said countrie, I bind and obliss me and my forsaids to warre and bestow Two Thousand Merks, money forsaid, of the said Three Thousand Merks, after it beis payed to me or my foresaids, towards the setting forth of a colonie of men furnished with necessarie provision, to be planted be me, my aires, or our deputies, within the said countrie, be the advise of the said Sir Robert Gordon and the remanent Barronetts of Scotland, adventurers in the plantation of the same, or so many of them as shall meete and conveene with my aires, or our deputies, within Scotland, and that at our meeting we appointed for that effect to be at St. Johnstoun, the xxvij day of August next to cum, or at any other meeting to be appointed be us at that time, and that the time of the setting forth of the said colonie shall be likewise condescended upon be their advise. And, for the more securitie, I am content and consents that thir presents be registrat in the books of Counsell and Session of the kingdome of Scotland, to have the strenth of ane Act and Decreet of the Lords thereof interponed therto, with letters and execution of horning, and others needfull, to be direct therupon, upon ane simple charge of six dayes alanerlie; and for that effect constitutes my lawfull procurators to consent to the regestering therof, *promitten de rato*. In witnes

whereof (written be James Philip, my servant), I have subscryved thir presents with my hand, at the Strand neare Chairing-cross, the fourth day of Junne the year of God Jajvic and twentie-fyve yeares (1625), before thir witnesses—Walter Leckie of Desthoures, Esquire, William Gunne, servant to the said Sir Robert, and the said James Philip.

" W. ALEXANDER.

" W. Lecky, *witnes.*
" W. Guin, *witnes.*
" James Philip, *witnes.*"

" Be it known to all men be thir present letters, Me, Sir William Alexander, of Menstrie, Knight, His Majestie's Heretable Lieutenent of the countrie of New Scotland, albeit that the Right Honorable the Earle of Antrymn and Sir Robert Gordon, Knight-Barronet, Gentleman of His Majestie's Privie Chamber, have bound and obleisit themselves, their heires and assignies, to pay unto me, my heires or assignies, the soume of Three Thousand Merks, usual money of the kingdome of Scotland, as principall soume, upon the eleventh day of November next to cum, togidder with the soume of Three Hundreth Pounds, money forsaid, of liquidate expensses in caise of failzie, and that thereby I may uplift the said soume and apply the same to my use as I please, nevertheless, for the

reguard I have to the well and furtherance of the plantation of the said countrie, and whereby Sir Donald Gorme[1] of Slait, Knight (upon whom His Majestie hath conferred the title and dignity of Knight-Barronet within Scotland, for being an adventurer in the said plantation), may be the better encouraged to plant and cause inhabite his own particuler bounds within the said countrie, conforme to a signator granted to him by His Majestie thereof, I, the said Sir William, bind and obliss me and my forsaids to ware and bestow Two Thousand Merks, money forsaid, of the said Three Thousand Merks, after it beis payed to me or my forsaids, towards the setting forth of a colonie of men, furnished with sufficient provisions, to be planted by me, my aires or deputies, within the said countrie, be the advise of the said Sir Donald Gorme or such Barronets, adventurers in the plantation of the said countrie of New Scotland, as shall meete and conveene with me, my heires, or our deputies, within Scotland, and that at our meeting we appointed for that effect to be at St. Johnestoun, the twentie-seaven day of August next to come, or at any other meeting to be appointit be us at that time; and that the time of the setting forth of the said colonie shall be likewise condescended upon be their advise. And, for the more securitie, we are content and con-

[1] Gorme is the Gaelic word for Blue; the Knight whom his Majesty thus honoured was Sir Donald MacDonald; perhaps Lord MacDonald could tell if his ancestor were a veritable Blue-Beard.

sents that thir presents be insert and registrat in the books of Counsell and Session of Scotland, to have the strenth of ane Act and Decreit of the Lords thereof interponed therto, with letters of horning, and others needfull, to be direct therupon, upon ane simple charge of six dayes issuing alanerlie; and for that effect constitutes our procurators to compear and consent thereto, *promitten de rato*. In witnes whereof, we have subscryved thir presents with our hands, at London, the last day of June the year of God Jajvic and twentie-fyve yeares (1625), before thir witness—William Nicolson, tailzour, and James Philp, wretter hereof.

" W. ALEXANDER.

" James Philip, *witnes*.

" William Nicyhkellsoun, *witnes*."

We are unable to say what was the amount of "the first terme's payment:"—

"At London, the second day of July the year of God Jajvic twentie-fyve yeares (1625), it is appointit and agreit betwixt Sir Robert Gordon, Barronet, Gentleman of His Majestie's Privie Chamber, on the ane part, and Sir William Alexander of Menstrie, Knight, His Majestie's Lieutenent of New Scotland in America, on the other part, in maner following, to

witt :—The said Sir William having a chartour under the Greate Seale of Scotland, of the date, at Windsor, the tenth day of September the year of God Jajvic and twentie-ane yeares (1621), granted to him, his aires and assignies whatsoever, be His Majestie's late dearest father, of all and haill the lands, countrie, and dominion of New Scotland in America, with the Admiralitie thereof, with diverse other privledges at length specifyed in the said chartour. Now for soumes of money payet and deliveret to the said Sir William be the said Sir Robert Gordon, the said Sir William hath sett and assedate, and be the tenor hereof setts, and in tak and assedation lettes, to the said Sir Robert Gordon, his aires maill and assignies whatsoever, during the haill space, yeares, and termes of nyneteen yeares next and imediatlie following the day and date hereof, which is hereby appointit and declairit to be the entrie and beginning of this present tak, all and haill the Admiralitie of all the sea-coastes, ports, and harbours of all lands and bounds pertaining heretablie to the said Sir Robert Gordon within the said countrie of New Scotland, and mentioned and designit in an procuratorie of resignation, of the date, at Whitehall, the eighteen day of May the year of God Jajvic and twentie-fyve years instant, made and subscrybed be the said Sir William, for resigning of the said lands in his Majestie's hands in favors of the said Sir Robert Gordon; with power

also to the said Sir Robert Gordon and his forsaids, during the said space, to hold Courtes of Admiralitie, and to receave and uptak all and whatsoever benefits and casualties belonging to the said Admiralitie of the said bounds, and to convert the samen to such use or uses as the said Sir Robert or his forsaids shall think expedient, and to do all thinges concerning the Admiralitie of the said bounds, which the said Sir William, or his forsaids, might do himself be virtue of the said chartour or other right whatsoever.

"And, for the said Sir Robert Gordon his further securitie, the said Sir William Alexander hath assignit and, be thir presents, for him, his heires, and successors, assignes the said Sir Robert Gordon and his forsaids in and to the said chartour and severall clausses respective therein mentioned, in so farre alanerlie as the samen concernes or may be extended in and to the said Admiralitie of the said bounds pertaining to the said Sir Robert Gordon during the space foresaid alanerlie. And in caise the said Sir William or his forsaids crave, or sall hereafter require, anie new right of the said Admiralitie, in that caise the same sall appertaine and accress to the said Sir Robert Gordon and his forsaids during the space forsaid, in so farre as the samen may be extended to his said bounds.

"And the said Sir William binds and oblisses him, his heires, executors, successors, and assigynes, to

warrant, acquyet, and defend the tak above specifyit, and all parts thereof, to be good, valid, and sufficient in all points, as is above written, from his, and his forsaids, proper fact and deed alanerlie.

"For the which Take above specefyit, the said Sir Robert Gordon be the tenor hereof binds and oblesses him and his forsaids to content and pay to the said Sir William Alexander, and his forsaids, yearlie, during the space above written, within St. Giles Kirk in Edinburgh in Scotland, upon Whitsunday-Even, the soume of fyve merks, usuall Scottes money, beyond the first terme's payment upon Whitsunday-Even next to come in the year of God Jajvic and twentie-six yeares (1626), and so forth yearlie thereafter, during the space above written.

"And, for the more securitie, both the said pairties are content and consent that thir presents be insert and registrat in the books of Counsell and Session of the Kingdome of Scotland, and have the strenth of ane Act and Decreet of the Lords thereof interponed thereto, with letters and execution of horning and poinding, and others necessarie, to pass and be direct thereupon, on ane simple charge of six dayes alanerlie; and for registering hereof constitutes conjunctlie and severallie, their lawfull procurators, *promitten de rato.* In witnes whereof, both the said pairties have subscryved thir presents with their hands, day, year, and place, above written before thir

witness, Edward Kincaid, servitor to Sir David Livingstoun of Dunipace, Knight-Barronet, and James Philip, writter hereof.

"W. ALEXANDER.

"Edward Kincaid, *wittnes.*

"James Philip, *witnes.*"

The Baronets of Nova Scotia, at a meeting held at Wanstead (date not mentioned), bound themselves to furnish two thousand merks Scots, each, "for buying and rigging furth of a shipp for the furtherance of the plantatione of New Scotland, and for carreing out men thither."

To Lord Marischal, who, with several other noblemen, had joined in the enterprise, Sir Robert Gordon sent the following letter:—

"To my very honorable good Lord,
The EARLE MARSHELL OF SCOTLAND—These:

"LONDON, *the* 25 *of May* 1626.

"MY LORD,—According to the conference wee hade togidder, at our last meeting, touching the plantation of New Scotland, and setting furth of a shipp by some of that worthie societie, to advance the said interpryse, I, being loth to be posteriour to any of our number in furthering that noble work, do heirby intreat your Lordship to answer for my part in buying and setting furth of the said shipp; and whatsoever soume your

Lordship will advance for me in this particular (not exceiding two thousand merks, Scots money), be the advyse of Baronet Strachan, Baronet Clunie, and Baronet Lesmoir,[1] I do obliss myself to repay the same to your Lordship againe, providing I have my equall portion *(pro rato)* of the gain and comoditie that (God willing) shall aryse from the traffick of the said shipp or otherways, from tyme to tyme, and that such men as I shall send over into New Scotland be freelie transported in the said shipp into that kingdome, and be landed either at the cheif colonie or at my owne portion of land by Port du Mutton, at my option. And further I intreat your Lordship, that when you cause drawe up the comonne articles and covenants of agreement amongst all you that ar parteners of that shipp, that your Lordship cause insert my name amongst them, as one, with the conditions above rehearsed. And, thus intreating this faivour of your Lordship, I shall ever continue, your Lordship's loving cousing, to serve you,

"ROBERT GORDONE."

Honour among thieves :—

"Be it kend till all men be thir presents, Us, William, Earle Marshall of Scotland—Lord Keith, etc.,

[1] The three Baronets whom his Lordship was to consult, were Sir Alexander Strachan of Thornton, Sir Alexander Gordon of Cluny, and Sir James Gordon of Lesmore.

Sir Robert Gordon—Gentleman of His Majestie's Privie Chamber, and Sir Alexander Strahan of Thornetoun, Knight-Barronets, fforsamekle as wee have bound and obleist us, ilk ane for our own parts, to contribute to the buying of a shipp, with ordonance and necessarie furniture for her, to be outreaked and sett forth towards the plantation of our lands in New Scotland, Wee do hereby bind and obliss us, ilk ane to others, and are content and do declare that after the said shipp is bought and put to sea, if at any time, so long as wee keep our severall parts of her unsold, or unassigned to any other person, anie prise or prises shall happen to be taken by the said shipp, comanders, souldiers, and marineris therein, that ilk ane of us shall have equall share and part of the profits, and of all benefite that shall be gotten be them, so that none of us shall have more part or benefite of anie prise so taken than others. And, for the more securitie, wee are content and consents that thir presents be insert and registrat in the books of Counsell and Session of Scotland, and to have the strenth of ane decreet of the Lords thereof interponed thereto, and that letters of horning, and others needful, be direct thereupon, as need beis; and for requiring hereof constitutes

our procurators, conjunctlie and severallie, *promitten de rato*. In witnes whereof (being written be James Philp, servant to Sir William Alexander, Knight, Secretarie to His Majestie for Scotland), wee

have subscryved thir presents with our hands, at Wanstead the eleventh day of July the year of God Jajvic twentie six yeares (1626), before these witnesses—Sir William Alexander and James Philp.

"MARSCHALL.
ROBERT GORDONE.
AL. STRACHAN.

"W. Alexander, *witness.*
James Philip, *witness.*"

Sir William Alexander was eventually created Earl of Stirling, etc., and his Lordship seems to have had a large share of "the loaves and fishes;" a document[1] signed by him "att Convent-gairdin, the twentie nynt day of Januarie Jajvic and fourtie yeares" (1640), commences thus:—

"Be it kend till all men be thir present letters, Us, Williame, Earle of Stirling—Vicount of Canada—Lord Alexander of Tullibodie and Menstrie—Secretar to His Majestie for the Kingdome of Scotland, fforsameikill as we have patent, grantit to us be His Majestie, of Nova Scotia in America, and for disponeing and resigneing of certain proportiones of land thairoff, and procureing to sundrie personnes the infeftments of the samyne frae His Majestie, with the honnors and

[1] It is an assignation of his emoluments and landed estate, in favour of the creditors of his deceased son, William, Lord Alexander.

dignitie of Knichts-Barronets, have beine in use to gett frae everie ane of the receavers thairoff the soume of money of this Realme, or thairby. And, siclyke, forsameikill as we have obtainit frae His Majestie, be His Hienes letters of gift to us, our aires, and assignays, the gift of the marriage of Frances, now Erle of Buckcleuche, sone and aire to umquile Walter, Erle of Badcleuche, his father, as vaukand in his Majestie's hands in maner mentionat in the gift grantit to us thairupoun, with the haill profites and comodities of the said marriage. And, also, forsameikille as we have power and comissione to admitt, receave, nominat, and creat all Sheriff-clerks, Stewart-clerks, and Baillie-clerks, within the Kingdome of Scotland, as the samyne sal happin to fall and vaik in his Majestie's hands," etc. etc.

III. LETTERS FROM THE COURTS OF JAMES VI. AND CHARLES I.

THE Master of Elphinstone, writer of the following letter, succeeded his father as fifth Lord Elphinstone; his sister died in 1617, having survived her husband, the Earl of Sutherland, two years. Sir Robert Gordon, as nearest relation on the father's side, was, by the law of Scotland, "Tutor" or guardian of the person and estates of his nephew, the fourteenth Earl of Sutherland, then a minor:—

"To my honourable and loving cousin
"SIR ROBERT GORDON, Tutor of Sutherland.

"*4th February* 1618.

"HONOURABLE AND LOVING COUSIN,—I resseaved yours of the 28 of January, and thanks you meast haertly for the cair you have of my sister-bairnes; that deutiful cariage of yours towards them will procuir the awin rewaird baithe of God and man, and it sall oblises so far to you that you sall have full assurance to command me as your awin boirne brother.

"We have no uther neues nor I did wreat of to you of befoir. In the meiting, the King's Majestie had appointed be certaine Commissioners of his, with

the Commissioners for the Estaits of the Low Contries, it being desired be the King's Commissioners that reparation might be mead for certaine wrongs committed be sum of the Holanders who travaeled to the West Inges, done to Ingless marchands of the Compagnie of West-Inges, ane fellow of Anstredame, who was not ane Commissioner, rais up and said it was folie to speik of reparation and redress, for his Maisters wer not in use to give restitution or redress — any thing they wold doe wold be out of compassion and for almes. If this arrogant answer did not offend the Commissioners for England who wer present, and thaireafter His Majestie, you may judge. This same fellow being sent, a long tyme since, to the King of Denmark for traitting for ane frie passaig through his Straits, the King of Denmark desiring redress to sum of his subjects for wrongs done be theafs of Flanders, said that if they did not repair theas wrongs, he wold hinder and stope them to saill throughe his Straits, this mad fellow did put his hand in his poquet, as if he had bein seiking sumthing thairin, and then said 'Good King, buist us not with that; I thoght I had broght in my pokquet the key of theas doors and Straits of yours, but I see I have forgotten it in Holand, but I know certainlie whair it lyes.' So theas fellows, inriched be uther Princes' commodities, out of thair pryd does contem all the uther Princes of Christendom.

"So, leaving to trouble you any furder, I rest your loving cousin, to serve you,

"A. ELPHINSTON.

"Leat thir lynes remember my service to my Ladies—your mother and bedfellow."

From Ludovic, second Duke of Lennox. His Grace, being near kinsman to the King, had apartments in the palace :—

"To my loving cousin SIR ROBERT GORDON, Knicht.

"At Paris—These:

"WHITEHALL, *the* 31 *of May* 1620.

"LOVING COUSIN,—I have taken the occasion to remember my love unto you, and to desyre you to let me hear of your succes in your busines. Withall, I must entreat you to send me over some dozen of masks for gentlewomen, which you must bespeak that they may be higher in the brow than the ordinary. You must send me also a dozen pairr of such gloves as the gentlewomen there do weare, and some working silk of dark colours, some reasonable quantitye of each. If Madame de Gie and Madame La Marquise de Vermont be at Paris, you may take their advyce in choosing them. So, till further occasion, I rest your loving cousin,

"LENOX."

His Majesty acted in a strictly constitutional manner :—

"To our trustie and welbeloved Sir Robert Gordon, of that Ilke, Knight-Barronet, Gentilman of our Privy Chamber in Ordinarie, and Shiriff of Invernes.

"Charles R.

"Trustie and welbeloved, Wee greete you well. In regaird Wee approve the laudable custome of that our Kingdome in choising their Comissioners yearlie in everie Shyre, for attending att Parliaments, Conventiones, or other generall meittings of the Estates of the sayd Kingdome, Wee have thought fitt, out of our princely care both for Church and Commonwealth, to requyre you to proceede to a new election of two such persons as you knowe to be sufficient and able men, well affected to our service and the publick good, in that Shyre whereof you are Sherriff, against the nixt Parliament which Wee intend, in person, shortlie to hould there. And, Wee having alreadie good proffe of your sufficencie and affection to our service and the publick good, Wee wish that yourselfe might be choisen as one of the sayd two Comissioners, if by any faire and lawfull meanes you can procure the same to be done. Soe We bid you farewell.

"From our Court att Whythall, the sixteene day of Marche 1630."

The King and the Earl of Carlile[1] were godfathers to Sir Robert Gordon's son, Charles. The Lord George was appointed to be His Majesty's depute at the baptism. To the person who acted for Lord Carlile, but whose name we are unable to give, as the envelope has been lost, the Earl sent this beautifully-expressed letter:—

"HAMPTON COURT, *the 27th September* 1632.

"SIR,—It hath pleased Sir Robert Gordon, my noble and speciall freind, to call me to an action of double honour in joyning me with His Majestie as an assistant and witnes to the christning of his chyld. I owe the gentleman so much respect, and, for this particular favour, so many thankes, that nothing but His Majestie's service and urgent affaires should have hinddred me to wait in person upon him at that solemnytie, had it bein to go to the remotest part of England; and as I hope that this will excuse my absence, so lykewyse I entreat it may serve to make an apologie for the boldnes I take to desyre you, Sir, to act, and better my part, in that ceremonie, with His Majestie's Deputy. I am confident that out of your owne innate noblenesse and courtisie, out of the familiar and freindly relation you have

[1] James Hay, son of Sir James Hay of Kingusk, was created Earl of Carlile, in 1622, but the title became extinct on the death of his son, in 1660. His Lordship had been ambassador at the Austrian and French Courts. The writer of such a letter must have known how to spell his own name; therefore we do not make it *Carlisle*.

to the gentleman, and out of the respect you have to His Majestie's interest, you will lay this obligation upon me, which I shall endeavoir to requyte to the uttermost of that which may be expected from your humble servant,

"CARLILE."

Royal Command to James, fourth Duke of Lennox :—

"To our right trustie and right welbeloved Cousin and Counsellor the DUKE OF LENNOX, Lord High Admirall and Chamberlane of Scotland.

"CHARLES R.

"Right trustie and right welbeloved Cousin and Counsellor, We greete you well. Whereas you, as Greate Chamberlane of our Kingdome of Scotland and of our Houshold here, should have a care of our Wardrobe, our will and pleasure is that you visit, or cause visit, our Wardrobe here, and make the Master thereof give an accompt and inventarie of such things are within the same to you, that you may acquaint Us therewith ; for doing whereof, these shal be unto you sufficient warrant. Wee bid you fairwell.

"From our Court at Falkland, the 10th day of July 1633."

His Grace's Order to the Vice-Chamberlain :—

"To the right honourable, my loving Cousin, Sir Robert Gordon, Knight and Baronett, Vice-Chamberlaine of His Majestie's Household in the Kingdome of Scotland.

"At the Court at the Hayrudhouse, *July* 11*th*, 1633.

"Cousin,—Whereas His Majesty hath, under his hand and seale, given command to me, as Chamberlaine of his Majestie's Household, to visitt, or cause visitt, his Wardrobe, and make an inventory be made of all such bedding and hangings, and the like, as shall be found therin; and, in regard of my necessary attendance upon His Majestie's person, and his other more weighty affaires, I shall not, in this short time of stay, have leisure to performe it myselfe, I doe therfore require, and by these presents authorize, you, as Vice-Chamberlaine, to visitt the said Wardrobe, and to cause the Master therof to give you an accompt of all such things as shall be found therin; and that you make a full and perfect inventory of the same; theruntill requiring the Master of the Wardrobe to sett his hand, and you likewise to appone yours. And so I rest your very loving freind and cousin,

"J. Lenox."

Why Sir John Seton called his correspondent "Father" we know not, nor can we give more information about Sir John than that he was a Gentleman

of the Privy Chamber, and that he married, about the year 1632, "Dame Margaret Hamilton, sister of Sir William Hamilton of Elistoun, Knight, and widow of Sir John Stuart of Meffin:"—

"To his hohorable frend SIR ROBERT GORDON,
Knycht-Baronette, &c.,—theis at Edinburgh:

"LONDON, *the 3rd of Jun* 1636.

"HONORABLE AND WORTHIE FATHER,—I am sorie that I cannot furnish your expectations with news; only, the Embassador of Polonia had audience, the 7th of this instant, at Hampton Courte; we sal know shortlie the fruits of his expedition. I have not as yet been with him, tho my brother has wretten to me ernestly, to wait upon him. To-morrow or nixt day (by the help of God) I wil go over the water and see him, for he lyeth at that house, a littel from Lambeth, which Sir Noual Carroun built.

"All bussines beyont seas ar lying dead, stil both in France, Germanie, and in the Low Countries, only they ar making readdie for the somer service. Madeborg is bockit up by the Saxons; there be six thousand Swedins into it, and it is feared that want of foode wil make them quyt the place. The Swedish armie, wayk anuf, lyeth on the North syd of the Elve, and the Saxons upon the South syd. No men can give you better information that way than the Colonels Munroes, who, I think, be now in Scotland. Sir Alexander Leslie doeth behave himself verie wel

in Westphalia, where he comands, and maketh himself terrible to his enemies there. He has about nine thousand men in his armie, some five thousand horse and four thousand foote. Here, at Courte, we have no news, but there be manie that expects the coming of the Deputie of Irland; among the rest I am one, for I was a suter to the King for fyftein thousand akers of the countie of Conah, which sal now be inhabited with Inglish and Scotts. The King tould me he feared I came too late, but if there be anie I sould have it. I wil cause the Prince Palatin speake for me to the Deputie, and try it that way; but I heare the conditions ar so hard, that I am growing cold that almost I do not caire whither I get anie or not.

"This day the Commissioners ar pairted to the fens of Lincolne, which ar now drayned, to have a jugement past, and I houp, in a few days, to have my proportione if the Fates has not said the contrarie. I have bin long expecting, for as the Italian proverb says, *Aspettare é non venire es un doglia da morire*;[1] I have, this whyl, had patience; I houp it wil now come to pass. I am so much the more confident because their Indentor holds to delyver other arable land, pasture or midow; now at the leaste it will be midow. My Lord Herries is the carrier of this letter (I thank his Lordship for the honor he doth me), and he wil returne quicklie after he

[1] To expect, and to fail of your expectation, is a pain of death.

has hard that the Deputie is landed, for he has his intentions bent for Irland. In lyk maner, siklyk, my Lord of Eglinton spoke to the King for four thousand akers for himself, and other four thousand for my Lord of Winton, which the King hard willinglie, and caused his Lordshipp give in the petitions, which now is in Secretarie Cook's hand. The King has altered his hests[1] of his progres again, but how, I can not tel, but wel I know His Majestie wil not go so farr North as he did determin at first. This is al that I can advertise at this occasion, and al the service I can do you for the present; when I can do you more service, employ me, non sal be more readdie than, Nobil Father, your troulie affectionat frend and obedient sone, to serve you,

"JOHAN SETON.

"Nobil Father, if ye can give Henrie Seton anie assistance to my Lord Treasurer for me, put to your helping hand, as I sal be reddie to serve you in lyk, or any other, occasion."

"To his honorable worthie frend SIR ROBERT GORDON, Knycht-Baronette, in Scotlande.

"LONDON, *the* 13 *of Jun* 1636.

"HONORABLE FATHER,—Whensoever occasion offers I can not chuse bot salute you with a little piece of paper, tho I can not alwayes find mater worthie of

[1] *Hests* mean *Behests*.

your reding. Sum six days ago I wreat to you with my Lord Herries, I houp ye have gotten that, and this is with James Wallace, who has undertaken that so soune as the Whitsunday's terme is gotten from the tennents of Methven, he wil delyver it to a merchand in Glascow, who sal have it made over to me hear, within a fortnight's sicht, for 7 per 100; this is a better condition than I have from Patrick Woode, who bargand with me at the first, that if monys come to a lower raite, he sould send me monys at a lower raite than 8 per 100, and then stay two months after sicht. Good Father take the pains to speake with Patrick Woode in this mater, without letting him know anie thing of the man of Glascow, it may be he wil give it better-chaipe than that man, if not, if he wil give it upon theis same terms, I wil be wel contented that the Glascow merchand offers it. Try William Dick what he says, or Mr. Inglisch, for I am assured that nowe, since the mony is at a lower raite, the exchengis will not hold so hy. When ye see Hendrie Seton ye may talke with him concerning this purpos.

"As for news since my laste, we hier that the Landsgrave of Hessen having joynd with Leslie, I meane Sir Alexander, in Westpalia, they marched to Flanane and relieved it, and beat Coloredo from the towne. Ther is a secourse of fourteen thousand men joynd with the Swaidisch armie, newly come from

Lieneland, commandit by a brave fellowe whois name, at this tym, I cannot gette; I houp they wil relieve Maydeborg; a littel before his arryval we hier that Banniere had defeat fifteen hundred horse to the Saxon; this comes from the Frenche Embassador at Parise, our resident, who, as they say, gives no such satisfaction as was expected, nether to the King nor to the Estate, saying that he doth not understand the negotiation of such hy bisines.

"Concerning the match with the King of Polonia, upon the ij of this month, I was with the Embassador of the said King (my brother had intreated me so to do because this man is one of his best frends), bot his Lordship and your cussan, Agent Gordon, they ar so secreet in ther effaires that nothing can be gotten from them; Mr. Gordon tould me that it was the King's expresse comand that it sould be so; howsoever, I understoode by ther Latin conference, that it stands upon relligion, either to permit hir to change hir relligion, I meane the Princesse, if by faire means schee can be perswadit, or els not to permit a minister in the Courte, wherby schee may have no exercise of relligion. The Embassador tould me that ther was bot one worde betwix the King and him, if the King wold give way bot to that one worde the mater sould go on, bot he could not see that it micht advance without that one worde. Now consider ye what that worde may be.

Upon the ij of this month the Deputie of Irland arryved in London, verie bravely convoyed with six postilion coches by[1] others. I have put in my petition to the King for a portion of the countie of Conah; what wil come of it I can not tel, the worst that could be is to be throwne over the barr. The King tould me that if there were anie, I sould have, bot he feared I come to leate. I am, this nixte day, to go to Tibols, where the King wil be from Teusday til Satirday.

"I receaved, almost everie weeke, a letter from my sister, and send hir such news as I had. We are much beholding to hir love and caire of us in offering ether hir owne house, or to get us ane other and schee wold furnisch it hirself for us. The Pest is not yet so spread, God be praised, but we may live in the towne, without great feare. A house was closed up in Spur Alay yesterday, it is nixt to Herthorn's Laine. We do not know what to do til we have mony, for til then we cannot sturr; we moste evin expect the plesur of God. Remember my service to my Lords of Winton and Eglinton, if they be in towne; tel their Lordships I shal be myndful of their bissines at Tybols, God willing. And so, preying The Almichtie to bliss us and send us a mirrie meeting, I rest eternally, Worthie Father, your affectionat sone and humble servand,

"JOHAN SETON."

[1] *By* means *in addition to.*

From Philip, Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, Lord Chamberlain of England :—

"To my very loveing friend Sir Robert Gordon, Knight, one of the Gentlemen of His Majestie's most honourable Privy Chamber, in Ordinary.

"Whitehall, *the 9th of ffebruary* 1638.

"After my hearty comendations; Whereas it hath pleased The King's Most Excellent Majesty to resolve upon a roiall journey to York, and there to be attended upon by all his sworne servants, of which nomber yourselfe being one, I am therefore to signifye unto you His Majesty's Roiall Pleasure that, all occations sett apart, in person you be in readines by the first day of Aprill next, at the Citty of York (with a horse and russett, armes with gilded nailes or studds, after the fashion of a Curassier, for yourselfe, and white armes, as a Hargobusier, for your servant or servants that you shall bring along with you), in befitting equipage, there to act and doe such dutie and services as may be expected from, or shall be required of, you. Which not doubting but you will most carefully observe, as alsoe give mee a speedy accompt of the receipt hereof, I rest your very loving friend,

"Pembroke & Montgomery."

The Marquis of Huntly continued stanch in loyalty to the unfortunate King, and was in consequence eventually executed :—

"To our trusty and wellbeloved Sir Robert Gordoun, Knight and Baronet, Gentleman of our Privie Chalmer, in Ordinarie, Vice-Chamberlane of our Kingdome of Scotland.

"Charles R.

"Trusty and wellbeloved, Wee greete you well. Wheras Wee have understood by you the loyaltie and affection which our right trusty and wellbeloved cousin and councellour, the Marquis of Huntley, hath caried to our service at this tyme, wherof Wee have taken speciall notice, and of his sufferings for the same, you may assure him from Us, that Wee have always reposed a great trust in his affection to our service, and will continew in that mynd; showing him, withall, that shortly (God willing) Wee will take a course for his, and his sone's, enlairgment; till which tyme assure him that no Covenanter shall have any pardon from Us, and that at our first conveniency he shall find the effects of our faivour. Wee bid you farewell.

"From Our Court at Durhame, the 2nd of May 1639."

IV. CIVIL WAR IN THE REIGN OF CHARLES I.

THE following letter is in the handwriting of Sir John Seton, from whom we gave letters at pages 29-34 :—

" To his honorable and most affectionat good frend SIR ROBERT GORDON, Knycht and Baronett, one of His Majestie's Privie Councell in Scotland, &c. Att Gordonston, or in Alghen of Morray.

" LONDON, *the 6th of Februarij* 1644.

" HONORABLE AND WORTHIE FATHER,—You must excuse us if you get not so often news from us as you desir, for occasion doth not offer to us often, the schips are so long a coming and goeing that ther is no possibilitie of satisfieng your expectation or our desyrs. The last we sent you was about the latter end of November. Now I have found the occasion of one, George Bisset, who was for a time in the wars; I houp you will see him, for he is goeing to Aberdin; and what I do not writt he can inform you more particolarlie.

" The King, our master, is still led away with that malignant Counsell at Oxfoord, and they are so

perverse that they will not have him to acknowledge this Parliament to be a Parliament. The Spanisch faction orders all matters at Courte,—Bristell, Dickbie, Cottinton, Porter, I should have said first, the Queen and the Dutches of Buckinghame. My Lord of Antrim has gotten a comission to go to Irland, and is gone 14 dayes agoe, with Dan. Oneil as his Leiftenant, both of them made Bedchambermen, the one a gentleman, the other a groome, and they are to rayse thirty thousand Irish bloodhounds, and to invad Scotland. I houp this wicked desein, amongst the the rest, shall prosper according to there ends, which is to destroy relligion. Antrim sauld all his Ladie's jewels at good chape rates, to get money for his jorney, even as my Lord Gorin has done with the King's. The printed papers will show everie thing distinklie; read them according to the order of time. The French Embassador, Monsieur Harrocourt, has ended his negotiation but with litle contentment, and, I houpe, done but litle of that he came for, to make a legue between our King and France. Our King wold make it defensive, but France will have it both defensive and offensive; the Spanisch Jointo will not let the King agree to that, which has gevin Monsieur de Harrocourt a great distast, yet he got a sword-belt at his parteing, worth fifteen hundred pounds Sterlin. The three Hollands Embassadors are gone from London to Oxfoord, but they have not yet

saluted the Parliament; they will begin at the King. They sent to the French Embassador to come and see him, but with this condition that they might have the right hand. The reason was that Harrocourt had no Comission for Embassador, only the Queen sent for him to come hither to negotiat the foirsaid bisnes, as a frend. But Monsieur de Harrocourt sent them word 'If they come they shal be welcome, he wold sit still in a cheare, and there sould be taboretts set to them, in everie syd of him, for, said he, though I were no Embassador, yet they know I am of one of the most illustrious houses into Christendome;' soma—the Hollanders came not. I belive they shall even effectuat as much as the French, for the Spanisch Jointo will put there nose out of joynt, though there instructions, I heare, be not much for the advantage of the Parliament, if they can obtin there ends from the King; they have received too much influence of the Prince of Orange's affection, and, except other instructions be sent to them, they will find there paines but lost labor.

"When I sent you my last letters the Parliament were verie low, but within these two months God has refreshed us wonderfullie with the beames of His favor. We have had, by His mercy, sundrie victories —the relief of Hull; the rooteing of my Lord of Newcassel's horse by my Lord Manchester and Sir

Thomas Fairfax; the takeng of Gainsborie; the takeng of Grafton Castle, and defeating five hundred men ther, and all prisoners; the takeng of Arondell Cassell, where were eleven hundred horse and foote, canons and amunition and armes, and all prisoners; the defeat at Alton of a thousand, and all prisoners; the defeat of the enemy att Nottinghame; and latelie, the greatest that was yet, Sir Thomas Fairfax and Sir William Brureton have defeat the King's armie att Nantwich, consisting of five thousand foote, eighteen hundred horse, and six pieces of canons. The horse were comanded by my Lord Biron (somwhyle Sir John Biron), your frend; he fled away manfullie, and all his horse for the most part, but all the foote were taken or killed; there were eighty Officers taken, high and low, six Colonels, and the rest the paper will schew you more particolarlie. And now to rejoice our hearts, our Scotts armie are come in, but how far they are advanced we cannot tell, the enemie lyes between us and intelligence. God make us thankfull for these and all other His mercies. There is a great confusion amongst them at Oxfoord. When they heard of this defeat of these English-Irish rebels in Chescheyr, ther was a meeting of some Lords and Commons at Oxfoord; they mett upon the 22 of Januarij, but it was a Parliament for one day, the King heard of such propositions framing amongst

them that he was faine to prorogue it; they wold have Bristell, Dickbie, German, Cottinton, and Porter apprehended, but it was prevented, yet they sent a letter to my Lord of Essex, subscryved with forty-five Lords, a hundred and two of these that were of the Comons-house, the Prince of Walles, the Duke of Yorke, and Prince Rupert, desireing his Lordship to motion to those that employed him, that they wold send some propositions of peace to the King, and, if they were reasonable, no doubt he wold hearken to them. A Committee was ordained for that purpose, who wold return no answere, onlie sent them the Covenant and the Declaration of both Kingdomes, sealed up; and my Lord-Generall wrot to Ruthven that he had received a note from him, wherin he makes no mention of the Parliament, but he wold spend the last drop of his blood in defence of the Relligion, Parliament, and Libertie; and no more he wold say. Duck Hamilton, his servants al removed from him, is in Perdenness Castle in Cornwell; my Lord of Limerick is escaped and is now with our Comissioners at London expecting with the first and best occasion to go to Scotland. It is wel known they had a mind to exalt the Popish house of Abercorn, but I houp they will misse of there mark. The rich Lord Pawlet, haveing lent the King manie thousand pounds, and had a great comand, because he was not

active anuf, and had no more monie, is cassired and in a cloud, and my Lord Biron in his place; his Lordship is now retired to Bristoll. Manie wold come in to the Parliament, if they could come without danger; Sir Edward Direng and one other are come. My Lords of Holland and Bedford ran away to the King when the Parliament was low, but they were so abused at Oxfoord that they returned with schame anuf, and now they have taken the Covenant, but are not admitted to the House; they say that none that fled away from the Parliament, shal be received again. The Comittee for the King's revenues will not part with one pennie to help those that are lik to sterve heir, of the King's servands, so you may think what speed the absents will come. Mr. Robert Bruce payes me wonderfull evill, if you go to Edinburgh, do what you can to help it. I am hardly delt, withall, for my pension, though others come speed anuf, both men and women. I have deserved better of my countrey, but my reward is in heaven.

"This my heartlie comendations and services to yourself, my vertuous sister, a madame la mere, and the children. I rest your affectionat sone and humble servand—for reasons I do not subscryve it, but

"YOU KNOW WHŌ I AM."

This letter is also from Sir John Seton :—

" To his honorable frend Sir Robert Gordon, Knycht and Baronett, one of His Majestie's Privie Counsel for the Kingdome of Scotland. Att Gordonston in the North.

" London, *the 27th of April* 1644.

" Honorable and Loving Father,—I received two of yours, the one dated the 6th, the other the 23 of Januarij ; since that time I have written to you sundrie times, but now I have found the occasion of one goeing to Aberdin, and with him I sent this packett. I should be glad to hear from you how things goe ther in the North, I am perswaded as bad as your unhappie kinred can make them, but I trust in God He will delyuer His Church from all the malice and power of there enemies, wherof the Gordons are, as they ever have bin, the cheefest in that kingdome ; doubtles they will get ther own reward. I pray you let me heare of all passages, with the best occasion. Your litle pamphlet, you desyr, I have sent it hier with the rest, and if I could doe you anie better service I also should be als reddie for it.

" As for news heir *The Weekly Intelligence* I have sent you, will inform you particolarlie, onlie, the Queen is gon and is now at Bristoll with my Lord German and Henrie Percie—who is my Lord of Anwick. The Gouverour of Glocester, Massi, took some of Her Majestie's cariages, as we heare ; what was in them I know not. Whether her Majestie intends

farther, we can not tell, but we imagine hir course will be to France or Ireland, but rether to France. Shee wold fain had the Prince with hir, but the Counsell at Oxfoord hindered that. Ther be some propositions of peace framing by the Comitee of both Kingdomes, and are to be given in to the Parliament, the first of May, but we have small houpes of agreement. My Lord Connoway, who has left Oxfoord, sayes, and he will take it on his conscience, they intend nothing at Courte but subverscion of Relligion and Lawes to bring in Poperie and Tirannie; and thus you may imagine what is to be expected by anie treatie, except they can doe no otherwayes. The Queen is verie ill, she is als lean as can be—nothing but skin and boan upon hir, and great with chyld. Duck Hamilton is in Perdinnis Castle still (never was ther a man of his qualitie so used, had he bin the greatest archtraitor alyve), and has never a servand with him; Doctor Belze was once suffered to goe and see his Lordship, but he has none to attend him, yea he has not cheanged a schirt for sixteen weeks time; they tooke all from him when he was put in that hole, and left him neither money nor clothes, linning nor woollen, but what was on his back, onlie they permitted his dog to go with him. God make him sensible of the steat of his soule, there is litle houpes that ever we shall see him alyve! He put himself in this labarinth, houping and trusting in his master's faver that he

might have a faire tryall, which is denyed him. Sir William Waler lyes with eight thousand men at Fernum; Sir Ralf Hopton has gotten afoote again, after he was once beaten off the field, not far from Winchester, and lyeth for the present at Basinstok; and Prince Maurice at Salesburie. My Lord Fairfax defeat fifteen hundred horse and eighteen hundred foote at Selbie, and took the comander prisoner (Mr. Bellis was he, who is Gouverour of Yorke); two thousand armes were gotten ther, and above a hundred and twenty officers prisoners; what canons and amonition they had, was taken; it was one of the greatest victories that ever the Parliament-forces gained since the warr began. My Lord of Newcassell is now in Yorke with five thousand foote and four thousand horse; our armie joyned with my Lord Fairfax at Wedderbie, the 20th of Apryl, and this victorie at Selbie was upon the 10th of that same month, and they are both together before Yorke keeping him in there. Our armie followed my Lord Newcassell at the heils, who thought to have beat my Lord Fairfax befor the Scots armie could hinder him, but upon his march our horse and his was at daylie skirmisching, where manie of his were made prisoners, and manie stole away from him by nicht.

"My Lord-Generall, the Lord of Essex, his armie is daylie recruteing and marching to his rendevous, which was apointed at Elsburie; but, because Prince Rupert is gon down with a great power to joyne with

my Lord of Newcassell (hardlie can he do it), it is apointed elswher, therfor my Lord of Manchester is wayting upon him with his armie of about eight thousand strong, and lyes about Stamfort attending what course Prince Rupert takes, who for the present, we heare, is in Schropshyre. Piccolomini, the King of Spain his generall, is at Oxfoord; he sent to my Lord-Generall for a passe to Dover, which he sent him. The Resident of Spain desyred of the Parliament he might come to London; that was not granted, neither the convoy to Dunkirk as he demanded. The King of Denmark is in an il condition; he himself comands the armie about Zeland be Copenhagen; the Prince comands his armie upon the other syd of the Sound (where Gustavas Horn keeps him in, in a town), and can not get out; the second sone, Bichop of Bremen, comands in Holstein. Ther be manie schips of the Estcats goeing to the Sound; and Swaden is verie strong by sea lykweys. Ragotsi, Prince of Transilvania, doth the Emperor great displeasur in Hungaric. We see no part of Christendome free from war; the Lord bring His Church pure and florischeng out of the womb of these trubles! I could wreat other particolars which must not be intrusted to pen or paper, till the oportunitie of time bring them forth to the view of the world.

"Thus haveing done what I can say in generall, you must collect particolars out of the papers. Your

daughter will wreat to you herselfe, so that I have no more to say but to remember my best affections and services to yourselfe, my most verteous sister, and all your fyne childrin, and wish Lodowick all helth and happines with his new-maried wyfe. And so I rest, Noble Father, your most affectionat sone and humble servand,

"YOU KNOW WHOM."

The Scots Committee of Estates published an Act for enforcing a general loan of moneys throughout the country. Lord Burleigh was President of the Sub-Committee at Aberdeen, and Robert Farquhar of Munie, writer of the following letter, was "Collector for the north parishes of the kingdom :"—

"To the right worschipfull SIR ROBERT GORDONE off that Ilk, Knight-Baronet—This :

"ABERDEEN, 19 *August* 1644.

"RIGHT HONORABLE SIR,—Yours I did receave on Fryday at night. I have gotten nothing done with Buckie ;[1] he is ane slow man and a dreich debiter. Our Comittee, I think, goes from heir about the 2 of September, towards Banff, from that, to Elgin. They are urging me to go alongs with them, which I press to shun iff I can, but I fear, *nill I will I*, I must go.

"This day Burley resaved a letter from the Chancellor, who wrytts that he was to tak jorney towards

[1] Mr. Gordon of Buckie.

Londone this samyn day, being chosen be the Parliament as a Comissioner. He says our Generall with his armie lyes about Newcastle on this side the river, and Calander on the uther syd, and that it can not stand long out, being so long since Gaitsyd was taeken in. Lord Sinclair lyes in Hartlepool with his regiment. He wrytts Prince Ropert is in Westmorland and Cumberland gathering up the dispersit armie again of Newcastle and King, and waitting thair ffor greatter power to com to him ffor the relieff of Newcastle-towne; bot it is thought er now it is taeken in. My. Lord Montroes[1] is denyit to have any comand over the Inglische, because it is said to him they can hardlie trust him who was not trew to his own nationc. Crawfurd and Lord Reay ar in Newcastle, as is reported. It is wreitten that the Lord Ogilvie is laitlie com privatelie home to Scotland. Upon Seterday at night, Mr. Forbes, Cornet to Cragivar's troop, rancountering leit with Kincusie-Irving[2] (a declairit rebell and fugitive) at the Crabstone, becaus he wold not be tacken, slew him dead. I end with the paper, not forgetting my loveing salutations to your worship, to your Ladye, and hopefull children; God's grace be with you and them. Ever I rest, your worship, as brother at comand,

"Mr. Robt. Farquhar."

[1] In less than a month after the above was written, Montrose marched into Aberdeen, and Farquhar fled out of it.

[2] Mr. Irving of Kincusie.

A document titled "Compt off moneys decernit to be lent upon publick securitie be the Comittees off Process and Moneys, and to have been payit to Mr. Robert Farquhar, be the severall persons underwryttin, in anno Jajvic and fourtie sex years" (1646), proves that these demands were in many cases most exorbitant; for instance, William Robertson of Kindeace, in the county of Ross, and his two sons, were ordered to advance £72,500 Scots; from the Mackenzies also large sums were demanded, but they did not obey, for Farquhar credits himself thus:—"Item, of the loan moneys above set doun, ther is yet restand unpayit, and whareoff no payment can be gotten, as followeth, viz., be the name of Mackenzie, sixteen persons, the soume of £28,666, 13s. 4d." (Scots.)

Many gentlemen, also, were fined by the Sub-Committees at Aberdeen and Dundee; after stating that the "Suma both of fyns and loan moneys above set doun, extends to the soume of £135,633, 6s. 8d., Scottes money," Farquhar gives his disbursements, from which we select the following:—

"Debursit be the said Compter, be warrands of the Comittees of Moneys and Process:—

	Scots.		
Two moneths' sederunts to three Noblemen—Merschell, Findlater, and Arbuthnet, in Dundie, £200 monethlie, ...	£1200	0	0
Two moneths' sederunts to two Barrons thair—viz., the Lairds of Echt and Findourie, .	533	6	8

Two moneths' sederunts to two Burgesses thair—viz., Alexander Jaffray and James Pedie, ...	£354	13	4
To Adam Wat, clerk, be precept, . . .	400	0	0
To William Downie, clerk, sicklyke, . .	400	0	0
To John Boyes, canonier, be order of the comittee, ...	30	0	0
Payit of charges conveying twelff flat-boddomit boatts from Dundie to Sanct-Jonstone, .	63	14	0
Expenss and hors-hyr sending my servand to Guthrie, at comand, ffor receaving the keys of the hous, when the Laird was taken and sent to Edinburgh, ...	2	15	0
Payit fraught of the cannon and ammunitione sent from Dundie to Aberdein, and expenss in finding out ane bark at the imbarking thairoff in Dundie, and putting out the samen in Aberdein, and my own servand his expenss going thairwith to Aberdein and returning be land to me to Dundie, . .	63	18	0
To Captane Lytill, for the garisone of Innerwharatie, ane boll of salt, ...	4	0	0
Item, allowit be the comittee to the compter ffor charges debursit be him, being sent from them from Dundie to the comittees at Linlithgo and Edinburgh, in Merche 1466,	36	0	0
To Jhone Brown, chirugian, for curing four hurt and woundit sogers who had come from the fecht at Aberdein, ...	30	0	0
To Jonet Guild ffor curing uther two woundit sogers, ...	13	6	8
To David Thomsone, who attendit the comittee-door in Dundie, twelff weekks, ane dolar weeklie, ...	34	16	0

Payit to messengers-of-armes ffor sumonding manie persons, sum complyars, sum to lend money, uthers as witness, ...	£188	18	6
Item, to severall persons ffor informatione of men's estats and rents and moneys in bank, 5 dolors, 7 dolors, and 4 dolors, . . .	44	0	0
Item, payit, be order of Generall-Major Middeltone, for sex compleit cullors to Liveten-net-Colonell Blaw his Dragoons, conforme to compt, ...	155	14	0
To the relict of William Nicolsone, Post, whom the Lord Gordone causit be hangit, beinge employit careying letters of the comittee of estats to Lievtennent-Generall Bailzie, .	200	0	0
Item, to the Earle off Findlater, in pairt of payment of fyve thousand merks ordeinit for him at Aberdein be the comittee, . .	1000	0	0"

Farquhar had also been Commissary-Depute.[1] As showing the strength and pay of a Regiment we give another of his papers :—

"Accompt of my Lord Sinclair, Collonell of ane Regiment. What is due to his Lordship since the

[1] On the 23d September 1640, the magistrates of Aberdeen recorded their sense of the obligation they were under to Mr. Robert Farquhar "becaus he has reieived the Toun of a burdine, be houlding a frie hous to General-Major Monro, dureing the haill tyme of his remaining in Aberdene, the Toun being chairget and lyabill to have furnisht spyceries, salt, weshell-naiprie, bedding, fyir, and sundrie uther houshald stuff, for furnisheing his hous."

aucht day of October Jayvic and fourtie yeires (1640) to the aucht day of Apryll Jayvic and fourtie ane yeires, ffor his Officers, Under-Officers, and Sogers, viz.:—

	Scots.		
Foure hundreth and fourtie Sogers at 6 shillings ilk soger in a day, . . .	£23760	0	0
Twentie Corporalls at 8 shillings ilk corporall in a day, ...	1440	0	0
Fourteen Serjands at 12 shillings ilk serjand in a day, ...	1512	0	0
Twentie-foure Under-Officers at 10 shillings ilk man in a day, ...	2160	0	0
Ane Drumer-Major at £18 ilk moneth, .	108	0	0
Sex uther Drumers at £12 in the moneth, .	432	0	0
Ane Leiutennent-Collonell at £200 per mensem, ...	1200	0	0
Ane Major at 200 merks in the moneth, .	800	0	0
Fyve Captaines at £100 ilk captain in the moneth, ...	3000	0	0
Sex Leivtennents at £45 ilk leivtennent in the moneth, ...	1620	0	0
Sex Ansenzies at £35 ilk ansenzie in the moneth, ...	1296	0	0
Ane Chirugian at £45 in the moneth, .	270	0	0
Ane Quarter-Maister and Secretarie at £36 to ilk ane of them in the moneth, . .	432	0	0
Twentie Rydderes at 6 shillings ilk man for a day, ...	2880	0	0
Suma,	£40910	0	0"

See Appendix, page 175.

In the spring of 1645, Elgin was in possession of the Covenanters, but after their defeat in May, at the battle of Auldearn, the town fell into the hands of the Marquis of Montrose, who burned and destroyed the houses and properties of all whom he supposed to be enemies to the Royal cause; thus the inhabitants had suffered from both parties. We presume that the purport of the following letter was to crave protection from a threatened fresh attack on the town by Lord Aboyne, who was an ardent supporter of the Marquis:—

To the Rycht Honourable
Sir Robert Gordoun of Gordounstoun.

"Elgin, *the* 4 *December* 1645.

"Rycht Honourable,—Our service rememberit. We heir that my Lord Aboynd and sum uthers ar to cum to this cuntrey; to what end we know nocht. Thairfor we may be bold with you, as we have bein befoir, to requeist you to tak sum paynes for the saifftie of this poor desolat toun, and to represent to thaim the miseries thairof, and thair sufferings this twelff-month bygane, to the effect that we be not over-burdenit, for verie littill now will put us clein out of breath. Ye will also be pleasit to call for David Dunbar, and tak him with you as ye did befoir, for none knows our estaitt better.

"So, recommending you to the protectione of God, we rest your loving freinds and servands,

"MR. J. HAY, *Provest of Elgin.*
NICHOLAS DUNBAR, *Ballie.*
GEORGE CUMING, *Bailzie.*
T. CALDER, *Ballaie.*"

Lord Lewis Gordon, son of the Marquis of Huntly, being more of a Reiver than a Warrior, pillaged the country, at the head of a band of armed followers. Before sunrise on the morning of the 13th February 1647, he made his appearance at Elgin, the magistrates of which town thought it prudent to pay worship to his Lordship's relative, the "Knycht Barronat :"—

"To the Rycht Honourable, our speciall guid freind,
SIR ROBERT GORDOUN of that Ilk, Knycht-Barronat, &c.

"ELGIN, *the* 14 *of Februarij* 1647.

"RYCHT HONOURABLE SIR,— Our service rememberit. Pleis we receavit your worschip's answer, and has considdrit the effect thairof. We ar sorie that your worschip is so tender, and that we suld be so faischious to your worschip. Thir presents ar, off new, again intreatting your worschip, that iff it mycht be possebill, that your worschip mycht cum in, the morrow, als tymlie as ye culd, that we mycht have your worschip's counsell and opinion in this matter betwix my

Lord Lues and us; your worschip wald do us ane singular favour, and oblige us to your worschip. We confes it is nocht the first of your worschip's favours conferrit upon us where your worschip sall have us ever your worschip's servands to command; and, referring all to your worschip's consideration in the premissies, comitt your worschip to God's protectione, and sall remayn your worschip's, at all powar to serve you,

"GEORGE CUMING.
W. LAYNG.
WILLIAM FALCONER.
T. CALDER."

Having beheaded the King, the people were now under the iron rule of Cromwell :—

"Suffer the bearer, Robert Cumminge,[1] Laird of Alter, junior, to pas and repas about his negociations, and to carrie a pistell for his personall defence, and to make use of a ffowlinge-peece[2] for his recreation, providid he act nothinge prejudiciale to His Hignes—The Lord Protector.

[1] Cumming married, contract dated 27th April 1666, Lucy, eldest daughter of Sir Ludovick Gordon, and their descendant (the editor's maternal grandfather) eventually succeeded to the Gordonston estates.

[2] An expert use of the "ffowlinge-peece" seems to be hereditary in the Altyre family; the present Baronet ranks amongst the foremost game shots in Scotland, and every one has heard of the exploits of his late brother, Roualyn Gordon Cumming, the Lion-Hunter.

"Given under my hand and seale, at Aberdeen, 7th August 1656.

"GEO: MORGAN.

"The said Mr. Cumminge beinge one of the Justices of Peace within the Shyre of Kincardon, I doe permit him to keep one hors above the vallue.

"G. M."

V. SCHOLASTICAL AND BIBLIOTHECAL.

Sir Robert Gordon dismissed the young Earl of Sutherland's pedagogue, and intrusted the boy's education to Mr. John Gray, Dean of Caithness, notwithstanding that Lord Elphinston, the Earl's maternal grandfather, had wished to get the situation for "one of the family." Here is a letter from the dismissed pedagogue:—

"To the right worshipfull Sir Robert Gordoun of that Ilk, Knycht-Barronet, Tutour of Sutherland, to be sent to him be Sir William Alexander, Secretarie at Court[1] for the affairs of Scotland, thess in haist—Haist.

"Edhre, 28 *Marche* 1626 *yeirs.*

"Right Worshipfull Sir,—On the 25 of this Marche your worship's letters cam to my Lord and me, of the date at London the 16 of Marche, shawing of your saif arryvell ther, wheroff we wer glad to hear;

[1] "The Gentlemen in Waiting" at Court dined early, as appears by the following address:—"To My honored Sir Robert Gordon, one of the Gentlemen of His Majestie's Privie Chamber. You shall find him either in the Gentlemen of the Privie Chamber's chamber or at his diner, about alevin of the clok, with the Waiteres; or give it to his man, from me."

as also acquenting us with M'y[1] his new preferment; befor your worship's letters some ten dayes, he got his patent past be the Counsell, and his Colonelshipe estab lished; er the wryting of thir presents he is returned North; he has provydet divers brav gentlemen as Captains, to the number of XII or XIII, and has all in good readines. Your worship having givin me my leave at your depairting, I was incertain what cours to follow, bot er I stayed at home without som honest chairge, I was myndit to try my fortun in France. I took verie hardlie and onkyndlie that your worship sould have bestowed no support on me; manie in Suthirland and therabout, have protectioune (being outlaws), and others not so naturall to your worship, have benefit and pentioun, albeit (as the fame goes current) they be robbers of the countrey and devorers of the simple husbandmen's labors; in a day of your worship's neid and credit ther wold be a far choise betwix the service of those runaways and your wor ship's owen frends, who, howsoevir your worship has mistaken them now, wold spend ther hart-blood for your honor; and those of whom now you mak so much, wold be als trewe to your worship as they wer to your worship's forbears. Treuth it is, it is not my

[1] Sir Donald Mackay, afterwards created Lord Reay, obtained permission from Government to levy men, and to transport them under his command to Germany, to assist Count Mansfield. In a few months' time he assembled about three thousand men, and embarked them at Cromertie, in October 1626.

pairt to prescryve a rull to onie man how to distribut his owen, for your worship may do with your owen what you pleas, bot I most be excuised to put your worship in mynd, this second tyme in wryt, of my two hundreth merks your worship witholdes becaus the bishop gav me two chalders victuall. If your worship had bestowed onie support on me at your depairting, I wold nevir hav mentioned this, bot seing your worship has used me both by[1] my expectatioun and desert, I most be excuised to seik my owen. I taught my Lord thrie yeirs in Suthirland, I nevir as yit got onie mor benefit bot one hundreth merks (your worship has my dischairge on no mor), so ther rests to me two hundreth merks, for the workman is worthie of his hyr. Iff your worship will not caus pay it now, I hop my Lord will somtyme considder it. My fyv yeirs attendance deserved a greater bountae, bot I could verie hardlie expect such honorable considerationes as noblemen of our countrey gives to ther pedagogs, and that be the conditionall modificatioun of ther wyse fathers, tutors, and freinds, who godlilie and honorablie considers that a man of onie good qualities, being a scholler, ought to be respected for his long paines, with some honest meiting atover his fie that he gets in the interim of his service, mor than a comon Jackman, as I have bein met with, who have gotten my fies evile-payed and my leav

[1] *By* here means *beyond.*

without bountae. I send a lettir to your worship with Mr. Jhon Drummond heiranent. I pray your worship use me not so hardlie as to withold my right, especiallie the recompence of such an honorable chairge; the world thinks it sould, of all my Lord's debts, be most thankfullie payed, and when his Lordship comes to yeares he will think it best bestowed that is given for his educatione, and those ought not to be put to the worse who attendet his Lordship. I can wryt no mor in this mater, nor mynds to notifie onie thing therin, till I reseav your worship's answer. I hop your worship will not put me to the worse, nor tak so muche from me who am lippened to God's providence and my owen shift. Iff my Lord, your worship's brother, that is with God, wer alyv, I wold not hav bein put from his sone's attendance for the pleasur of all the tym-taking and dissembling Grays in Suthirland (who ar and evir hav bein verie flatterers —the sones of Janus, who as they hav two faces so hav they two harts), nor yit for onie other man's particuler. Those who hav discendet of my goodshir hav caus atover others to bewaill and mise his Lordship. I will not, nor can not, forget his Lordship's promise to me in St. Andros (his Lordship being ther in ward), having promised to me his sone's attendance, and other good promotions, provyding I wold prov a scholler; bot God has taken his Lordship to glorie, albeit in som pairt to my miserie, blissed be God for

all. Bot look, Sir, the worst of my service be not the best you get from a stranger. Bot I will acquiese in the favour I had of the defunct Lord, and for his caus prov als thankfull to his son, in what I can, as iff I wer evir about him; nather wold I hav returned from his Lordship with a toom and emptie hand, being myndet of the countrey, for it might bein said of his Lordship as the Romans said of Trajan, ther Emperor, *Nemo unquam discessit tristis a facie Imperatoris.*[1] Bot leaving this theme to your worship's wisdome, I can not tell what to wryt, how divers thinks that your worship sould not setled a new attendant, at lest named one, to succeid after me, and defrayed my Lord's chairges in this town at your worship's being heir. We can get no money from Suthirland, we hav wrettin thither thrie severall tymes, and, be my Lord Elphinstoun's advyse, hav sent a boy, of set purpos, with letters to bring moneys. Our creditors ar still running on my Lord, he has not to give them, and they in Suthirland hears not our necessitie; the chalmirland's answer returned was 'that all the money gettablle was taken away by yourselff, he had obeyed the Tutor, and my Lord sould hav of the first could be gotten, and what tyme of yeir was it to seik money from Suthirland now!' how this answer was interpret be them hard it (of his neglect of my Lord, of his onlie obedience to your worship, and, seing your wor-

[1] No one ever left the presence of the Emperor, sad.

ship had taken all away, that he had no moneys to give my Lord) I pas hear, as long and not pleasant to wreit; albeit he had favoured your worship nevir so muche, he sould not have broght himselff in suspitioune so soon to my Lord. The other point, about my Lord's attendant, is no les controverted; my Lord Elphinstoune will hear of non bot of his sister-sone (he has now hit the mark he long aimed at, viz., to displaice me and install a man of his owen); to his owen effect —'Iff he be not inclyned to the Religioune of Rome what exceptioune can be had against him, he is my Lord Suthirland's owen nere kinsman and cousen-german, a verie gentleman' (and manie such arguments), 'he sall be once put in, who can put him out, for he will nevir be papist, etc. etc.' In the mean tyme, I can not bot remember to your worship the weght of this particuler, abov onie other; will my Lord now be rulled be a verie youth, or stand in aw, and reverence him who, this two yeirs since evir they wer acquented, was used to do reverence, homage, obedince, and stand with hat in hand, to his Lordship; or sall one bairn wyislie rulle an other? How can a man rulle an other (especiallie a noblle to whose breiding much belongs), who can hardlie rulle himselff? *Barbatus regere deberet imberbem, et non imberbis imberbem*,[1] a young Nero ought to hav a grav Seneca,

[1] It is fit that a bearded man should govern the beardless, and not one beardless boy, another.

and not, lyk Dionisius, to hav a young Plotin. Mr. Jhon Rae will not meddell in the mater. I was myndet to propos to my Lord Elphinstoune two grav sage men of experience and undirstanding, who, both, at Whitsonday ar making to Fraunce, bot on good conditions, I think, onie of them may be keiped, especiallie to suche an honorable chairge, one is Mr. David Fentoun, presentlie in service with the Master of Kellie teaching his young sone, the other Mr. Robert Hepburn, pedagog somtyme to young Waghtoune,[1] bot, I finding my Lord Elphinstoune so bent on his sister-sone, I meddled no mor in the mater. Treuth it is, whill I was heir I had manie overseirs, all my scapes wer registrat be my Lord Elphinstoune, and manie faults eiked wheroff I was not guiltie; he ceases not to eike complaint to complaint. But now I will inquyr of your worship, seing my Lord Elphinstoune puts a man to my Lord Suthirland, of his chosing, iff that man sinn (as we ar all sinners), who sall wreit that sinn to your worship, or who bear witnes of his cariage? It will be long, I hop, er he faill in his duetie, and far longer er your worship heare theroff, so that, all being passed over with silence, the man will be worthie of great reward; bot iff your worship had forsein the particuler my Lord Elphinstoune aimed at, this long tyme, for his sister-sone, and the Grays for the naturall enimitie they hav at the preferment of onie vassall in Suthir-

[1] Mr. Hepburn younger of Wauchton.

land to ryse above themselffs, your worship wold had greater cair to keip your owen freind in preferment, rather than cast him doun to advance onie of thers. A man may hav a worse fault than be a lover of good Catholicisme, he may be a papist bot also a far better moralist, a better civilian, and mor virtuouslie and austerlie disposed than licentious puritans. I could not choose bot set doun this, taking God to witnes, be this present lettir, of the cair I hav of my Lord's good and vertuous breiding, and of the earnest wishes I hav of his Lordship's good and honest educatione, that seing I am secludet from his Lordship's fellowship and attendance, yet my good wishes can not be hinderet, till breath faill and hinder my lyiff. So ending this purpos, having no certentie of estait at Whitsonday (your worship witholding that which wold helped me to Fraunce), I am in termes, and lyk to agrie, with M'y to go in his service in this expeditione over the sea; neid has no law—your worship has driven me from the Muses and books to Mars and the camps.

"Always, to your worship's answer, and that in haist to all those points, I commit your worship to God, and rests evir your worship's humble servand, and poor kinsman, to be comandet to death,

"A. GORDOUN."

We are unable to give any information regarding the writer of the following letter, but he seems to have resided at Perth, formerly St. Johnston :—

"To his honorable and worthie freind Sir Robert Gordon, Knight Barronet, and one of His Majestie's Privye Chamber, at his house within the Close of the Cathedrall-churche of New Sarum. These be, &c."

"Jonnston, *the* 16 *of Januarie* 1629.

"Honorable and Right Worshipfull,—My most humble and harte dutye remembered. These few lynes doe I send unto your honour, as a remembrancer of the placing my sonne, Robert, in Westminster Schoole, that you wold be pleased to be informed of the manner theirof (either by Mr. Patrick Yong or some other that can throughlie informe you theiroff, and sett you in the right course of obtaining the same), and if His Majestie's letters of comendation are requesit, or whether the Duike of Lenox or the Dutchess of Richmont will be sufficient to the Bishoppe of Leichfield, or any neyrer way you can learne; if any of these latter wayes will prevaile, that then it wold please your honor to deale with Mr. Haitly to purchase any of the aforesaid letters comendatory, and tell him that I will be very thankfull to him for his paines.

"The first year (if I be rightilie remembered), as I was informed, he must be a Comoner or Probationer; as to that I am content if I may gett him

preferred the next year following, for I will be at charges either to boord him in the schoolemaster's owne house or in some other house of my acquentance. If you talk with the schoolemaster himselff, your honor may tell him that he is about XIIIJ yerees of age, that he hath learned all his Latine-gramer two or three times over, and doth understand the same. At this spring, by God's grace, I will enter him into his Greek. He doth learne, besid, Virgill and Terence, and some of Tullie's orationes. He maketh two exercises a week, the one in translating Latine into Englishe, and the other in makeing of Latine.

"Thus, honorable and worthie Sir, am I bold to trouble you, trusting to find your favour and furtherance to be as effectuall and prosperous for my child as I have often found it for myselff; in doing whairof, you shall for ever both farther oblige me and him, and all myn, to pray to God for the continuance of God's gracious blessings upon your honor and all your's *in secula seculorum, amen.*

"My wife and all of us doe remember our humble dutye to yourselff, my Lady your bedfellow, to Madam your mother; and our hartist salutationes to all your sweet litle children, whom I pray God to blesse. I rest you honor's poore and trule loving freend, at all power to be commanded,

"JOHN SHARPE."

The *Regiam Majestatem* is considered a most valuable work :—

"My Lord Register his discharge upone the resait of 100 lb for prenting of the Buik of the Majestie. 18 Merche 1612 :—

"I, Sir Johonne Skene of Curriehill, Knycht, Clerk of Register, grantts me to have ressavit frae Sir Robert Gurdoun of Kynmonowie, Knycht, in name and behalf of ane nobill and potent Erle, Johonne, Erle of Suthirland, the soume of ane hundreth punds, Scotts money, ffor his pairt of the contributioun appoynttit be the nobilitie of this realme, for imprinting of the auld laws of Scotland. Of the which hundreth punds money for the caus forsaid, I hald me weill contentit and payit, and discharges the said nobill Erle, and all others whome it effeirs, thairof, be thir presents subscryvit with my hand, at Edinburgh, the auchtene day of Merche the yeir of God jajvjc and twelf yeirs, befoir thir witnesses, Johonne Gurdoun—apperand of Sidderay, Alexander Lyntoun—servand to the Master Elphingstoun, and Abacuch Bissett—writtare hierof, and James Curle—burgess of Edinburgh.

"JOHNE[1] SKENE, *with my hand.*

"Alexander Lyntoun, *witnes.*"

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[1] A Baronet, or a Knight, prefaced his signature with a flourish of the pen, like the letter *S*.

There being no bookseller in the far North, the worthy minister (then Dean of Caithness, we think,) got a friend to purchase books for him in London :—

"Ane Catolloge of Buiks, delyvered to Sir Robert Gordoun be Mr. John Gray, Minister at Dornoche, to be coft at London.—13th September 1633.

"Imprimis, Cotton's Concordance in Ingleise, according to the King's translatioun, of the finest letter.

"Item, Jacksoun on the Parabils of the Gospell.

"Item, Smith on the Twentie-ane Spalme.

"Item, Waires Sermones.

"Item, Doctor Herpher on the Hundrith and nyntein Spalme.

"Item, Playfer his Sermones.

"Item, Hary's Sermones.

"Item, The best lait wreittir on the Hystorie of the Churche, eithier Ingleise or German.

"Mr. Jo : Gray."

VI. NOBLE AND EXEMPLARY WIVES.

THE Duchess whose generosity is recorded, was Frances Howard, widow of Ludovic, second Duke of Lennox,[1] and granddaughter of the Earl of Surrey[2] who commanded the English army at the battle of Flodden. The recipients of her Grace's bounty were Esme, third Duke of Lennox, and his son, James, afterwards fourth Duke :—

"A note of such things as my Lady Duches of Richmond and Lenox gave to her brother—the late Duke of Lenox, and his sonne—the Lord Darnly, which were hers by lawe, being mouvables, but she freelye gave them to him, for the maintenance of him and the House of Lenox after him, out of her dutie to her deceassed Lord, and her love and care of the House of Lenox.

"1. The proffittes of the Patents of the Vinage[3] after

[1] He died in February 1624.

[2] Afterwards Duke of Norfolk.

[3] The Vinage was the privilege of supplying the King's household, in England, with French and Gascon wines, but the holder of this monopoly had to pay £900, yearly, to the Crown.

seaven yeares, after which time there wil bee ffortie-twoe yeares to come. Her Grace hath nowe for that, ffoure and twentie hundred pounds yearelye, the King's rent paid, but afterwards it wil bee a greate deale more.

" 2. The Patent of the Greenwax[1] in present (which is fifteen hundred pounds yearelye), for one and twentie yeares, and three thousand pounds of arrerages payeable out of the Hamper.

" 3. The Patent of the Newcastell coles,[2] for one and twentie yeares.

" 4. The Patent of Sweete-wines and Sugars, for one and twentie yeares.

" 5. The thirds of Setterington, Cobham, and all other lands and leases in England.

" 6. The thirds of the whole Dukedome of Lenox; of all of which my Lord Duke of Richmond was seized, and so her Grace was capable of the thirds of them all; but my Lord Duke of Lenox that last died, was not seized of any.

" 7. My Lord's Collar of Esses[3] with a George of diamonds at it; three other Georges and Garters;

[1] Green wax used for Seals of State.

[2] Newcastle coals on entering the port of London, were taxed to support the House of Lennox; the tax was bought up by the Corporation of London, within the last few years, from the late Duke of Richmond, who, however, was not a descendant of the old House of Lennox.

[3] The Collar of the Order of the Garter is called a collar of S.S.; but the Collar of S.S. belongs especially to the great Order of the Golden Fleece—the most noble in Europe.

which is all he had excepte one which is upon his Effigies at Westminster.

"8. My Lord's riche swoorde sette with stones.

"9. My Lord's robes and twoe seales.

"10. All the furniture which belonged to my Lord's Lodgings of the Gatehouse at Whitehall; with a wroght bed that had been my Lady Margaret Lenoxes, and of her working; with a great bason and ewer that the French King gave my Lord; three guilt candlestickes and two guilt bowlles upon the cupborde.

"11. All my Lord's progresse stuffe; a red bed, with chairs and stooles suiteable to it; and hangings and carpettes for the bed chamber and dining-chamber.

"12. Three rich coaches, whereof one of yellow velvet, another of yellow satten imbrodered with fflour delices of black velvet and gould, the third of black and yellow figurde satten; six rich imbrodered coates; six livery clokes, whereof three for coachmen, and three for groõmes, all which were never used; and foure coache-horses.

"13. Five hundred pounds in money, which my Lady had lent to my Lord Duke of Lenox, whereunto he promised to put as much more together with the three thousand pounds arrerages of the Greenwax, to bee imployed towards a portion for his daughter the Ladye Elizabeth Stewart."[1]

[1] Her Ladyship married, in December 1626, Thomas, Earl of Arundel.

Dame Margaret Home was elder daughter of Alexander, first Earl of Home, and wife of James, fourth Earl of Moray. What the Countess calls "the iniquitie of the tyme," was, in reality, the extravagance of her husband :—

"Be it kend to all men be thir present letters, Wee, Dame Margaret Home, Countes of Murray, forsameikle as be the iniquitie of the tyme, the debts and burdings of the Hous of Murray are greatlye increased, which gif it be nocht tymouslie prevented, it may turne to the utter ruine and overthrow of the Hous of Murray, therefor, and for the preventing of the samyn, and for the tender love and respect wee beare to our lord and husband, and his subsistance and his famelie, and for the love wee beare to our eldest sone, and his better subsistance, and also for the love wee carye to the rest of our childring, to the effect they may be better provyded, therefor, and for the caussis and respects foirsaids, to have renunced, quyt-claimed, up-given, and over-given, lyk as wee, the said Dame Margaret Home, be thir presents, willinglye and frielye renunces, quyt-claimes, up-gives, and over-gives our lyfrent-richt and conjunctfie and uther tȳtle or richt that wee, the said Dame Margaret Home, can ask, clame, and prytend in and to the tounes and lands of Kintrea, Ardgye, Inchertellie, Ruiffes, and Roishauche, with housses, biggins, lands, tofts, crofts, partes, pendicles,

and universall pertenents of the samyn, used and wont, which lands ar ane parte of the Thaynedome of Murray, and lyand within the parochines of Alves and Spynie respective, and schirriefdome of Elgin and Forres, whairin wee, the said Dame Margaret Home, stands presentlye infeft in lyfrent and conjunctfie during all the dayes of our lyftyme, to and in favour of James, Earle of Murray—Lord Doun and Abernethie, &c. &c., our said husband, his aires and assignayes whatsumever; with full power to our said lord and husband to sell,[1] dispone, and wadsett the saids lands and uthers above written, with the pertenents lyand as said is, as his Lordschipp or his foirsaids sall think expedient, to whatsumever person or personnes, for defraying of his debts and burdings, als frielye in all respects as his Lordschipp micht have done befoir our lyferent-richts and conjunctfie of the samyn. Declairand, heirbye, that all richts and secureties, chartours and saisings, following thairupon, maed and grantit to us, the said Dame Margaret Home, be our said lord and husband upon the saids tounes and lands of Kintrea, Ardgye, Inchestellye, Ruiffes, and Roishauch, with the pertenents lyand as said is, in lyfrent and conjunctfie during all the dayes of our lyftime as said is, sall be now, and in all tyme cuming, null and

[1] The Earl sold the lands to Alexander, first Lord Duffus, from whose successor they were bought by Dunbar of Thunderton, who sold them, on the 25th July 1729, to the Duke of Gordon.

of naine availl, force, nor effect, aither in judgement or outwith the samyn, whairever the samyn sall happen heirafter to be produced. . . . And also, wee, the said Dame Margaret Home, be thir presents, binds and oblesis us to compere judicialye befoir any Judge competent within this nation, and his clark, and there, outwith the presence of our said lord and husband, ratefie and aprove this present renunciation in the heall heades, articles, claussis, and conditiones of the samyn, and sall give our solempne aith that wee are nocht coaxted nor compelled theirto be our said lord and husband, and that wee sall never come in the contrar heirof. . . . In witnes whairof, wee have subscryved thir presents (written be Alexander Stewart, Writter in Elgin), with our hand, at Dunnibirsile, the

day of October ane thousand sex hundreth fyftie and twa yeires, befoir thir witnesses—John Skeene in Dunfermeling, Maister William Thomesoun and Alexander Ros, servitours to the said Countes of Murray, and Adame Young, inserter of the said witnes.

"M. MURRAY.

"William Thomsoun, *witnes.*
John Skeene, *witnes.*
Alexander Ros, *witnes.*"

VII. AN ORDER FOR DRESS; AN OFFER OF MARRIAGE; AND A MARRIAGE.

THE Countess of Sutherland, widow of John, thirteenth Earl, and daughter of Alexander, fourth Lord Elphinston, writes to her dressmaker:—

"To my Richt Traist freind JOHNE HUNTER,
tailzeor and burgess of Edinburgh—These:

"DUNROBIN, 26 *Feby.* 1616.

"TRAIST FREIND,—My heartlie commendationes remembred. Ye sall tak the panes to gang to annie merchand within the towne and tak off als meikill blak Ryssillis[1] as wil be ane doublet and skirt unto me, whilk ye sall mack and furnishe yourselff, and be cairfull ye mack of the newest faissone that is usit. Ye sall adverteiss me with the nixt occasione, of the pryces therof, and I sall send you siluer for the samen; and, how soone it is ready, ye sall delyver the samen to my sister, my Lady fforbes, whome I haif wrettin to for to receave the samen. Ye sall lykways send me als meikill Perpetuona[2] as wil be ane gownd to my

[1] A fabric manufactured at Lisle, of which city the Teutonic name is Ryssel.

[2] A very strong fabric; the name is expressive, being taken from the Latin word *perpetuus* everlasting.

dochter Elizabethe, whilk, I think, sall be aucht or nyn elns, that be verie fyn and of ane good licht culor, with pesments and buthones sutable therto, with silk; and adverteiss me of the newest faissone, that I may caus mack the samen; and, after ye adverteiss me of the pryces of the haill, I sall send sileur unto you. So, haifing no forder at this prisent, bot expects ye wil obey thir prisents, I comit you to God's protectione, and rests your assured good freind,

"ANNAS C. SUTHIRLAND."

Here is her Ladyship's account:—

"The Ladie Suyrland's Compt, the 6 Appryll 1616 yeirs, furnesit be Jon Huntar:

	Scots. £	s.	d.
Item the first, maid and furneisit to your Ladieship ane doublet and skirt of Reisles grograme. Furneisit, to be the doublet and skirt, 4 ells and quarter Reisles grograme, at 53 shillings and 4 pence the ell, is .	11	6	8
Item, 3 quarters poldawie to the doublet, .	0	15	0
Item, ane ell of bukrame to sleive the doublet with, ...	0	12	0
Item, ane ell of balling, ...	1	12	0
Item, 2 ell plading to be ane ply throwe the bodie and sleivs, ...	0	16	0
Item, ane ell of plading to the sleivs, . .	0	13	4
Item, half ane ell of bukessie to lyne the taills,	0	6	8
Item, 6 drope of silk, ...	0	13	6

	£	s.	d.
Item, 4 dozen and half ditto of buttins, at 3 shillings the dozen, is	0	13	6
Item, half ane quarter of teffitie to lyne the hands and neck of the doublet, . .	1	0	0
Item, 10 quarters bukessie to lyne the skirt, at 13 shillings and 4 pence the ell, is . .	1	13	4
Item, 6 drope of strings to the skirt, . .	0	13	6
Item, for making doublet and skirt, . .	2	10	0
Item, sending to your Ladieship, the same day, 10 ells of perpetuane, at your Ladieship's comand, at 50 shillings the ell, is . .	25	0	0
Item, 5 unce and half silk and palsments, at 36 shillings the unce, is	9	18	0
Item, 4 dozen buttins, at 3 shillings the dozen, is	0	12	0
Item, ane ell of bukrime, to palk upe your Ladieship's doublet and skirt, . .	0	13	4
Summa this Compt, .	£59	8	10"

Lady Jean Gordon was a daughter of John, fourteenth Earl of Sutherland, by his wife, Lady Jane Drummond, daughter of James, first Earl of Perth. Whether her Ladyship took the "good occation whill ofered," or ultimately refused the "gentillman,' we know not. She was on a visit at Gordonston when she wrote, but she naturally wished the marriage to take place at Dunrobin, the residence of "my Lord," her father :—

"This ffor the Right Worshipfull Sir Ludivick Gordon,
of Gordonstoune. In Cromerty.

"*The* 19 *of Jany.* 1657.

"Deir Cousing,—This gentillman, the berer heirof, has bein att me, making offer of himself and fortoun to me; and I, not being wholy att my owne disposing, has sent him to speek my father, and brother, and yourself, and Skibo,[1] with any other freinds you think fit to meit therupon, hoping you will se to my good in it. His estet, as he says, is five thusand mark a yeir, and he ofers me the half for my congenfie, which I think is very fair, considering the condission I ame in, for it is good taking an good occation whill ofered. He does profes a great dell of love to me; for my owne pairt, I could led my lyff with the man, for he sims to be a very deserving gentillman, and one I hop of a good disposition, and any thing he has is frie; so that, cousing, when ye have met with the rest of the freinds theranent, and tryd how much ye can se it tend for my good, then accordingly I expects ye will be my freind and his both, for he intends to putt it to a poynt as soun as possibly can be, and if ye that are freinds command him to goe Suth, to speek any of my freinds there, I belive he will obay. So leving this busines, cousing, upon you to befreind, as ye se it for my good, who shall, for all your favours, indevor to

[1] Mr. Gray of Skibo.

aprove myself, as becometh her who is your most obedient cousing, to serve you,

"JEAN GORDON.

"Cousing, if ye conclud on this busines er this berer return, I intret you move my brother to com this lenth to speek with me in businesis, for I know not how to get munis, and ther is an necesity of having it att such a tyme; for, what he ows me of my mentinance, he must of nesesity advance it befor hand, and more so if that be it goe on. I intret you to se what my Lord will doe; if ye could move him to tak me hom and match me out of his owne house, albit never so privatly, for it will be a trubill to your mother to have it solemnised heir, albit never so privatly. I hop for your answer theranent by this berer; he intends Suth, but he wold fain contract furst. Doe this as ye think fit (he, dutles, will give you all content) so that ye deminish non of my fornemid portion, ogment it as they ples.

Extract from a letter, dated Dunibristle, 6th August 1725, and written by Miss Ann Stuart,[1] niece of the Earl of Moray. The beautiful bride was Lady Susan Cochrane, daughter of the Earl of Dundonald:—

[1] Information regarding Miss Stuart and her correspondent may be seen in former series, page 117.

"Least you have not got a particular acount of my Lord Strathmore's marriage, I will give you the best I can. He was the fondest lover that ever I saw, and, I believe, as fond a husband. He has got a very fine woman, I am persuaded, and, I think, extream handsome; she has a mighty prity face, but indeed the siklyest pale one that can be; she is tall, well shaped, and has a graceful easie genteel air. In my oppinion, take her altogether, she is not inferiour to her sister, Lady Katharine,[1] the famous beauty; but the men are not of that mind, but many of the ladys are, and they are certainly nicer judges. My Lady Strathmore had a blue and silver rich stuff goun and petecoat; a blue silk, trimmed to the pocket-holes with silver net; and a pale yellow, trimmed with two row of open silver lace, about three nails deep each; a green satin, trimmed with close and open silver lace, which she had before her marriage. She was married in white; her fine Brussels-lace she got from London; and she bought a great deal of lace at Edinburgh. She made no appearance after her marriage, except seeing the archers, for their coach was not come down from London, and they staid but a few days in toun. Her necklace is a very fine one as I have seen this great while, but her earing and other jewells were not come from London at that time."

[1] Her ladyship married Alexander, sixth Earl of Galloway.

VIII. INVITATION TO THE FUNERAL OF A COUNTESS, 1658; OBSEQUIES OF A LAIRD, 1663, AND OF A KNIGHT, 1666.

THE deceased Countess was wife of John, fourteenth Earl of Sutherland; who, if we may judge by the concluding part of his letter, thought that one good turn deserved another; the address has been unfortunately torn off:—

"DUNROBINE, *the* 29 *July* 1658.

"RIGHT WORSHIPFUL,—The Lord having upon the 29th instant removed my consort from her pilgramage to her eternal rest in the bosom of her Redimer, and, purposing through His gôod will to have her corps interd at Dornach, upon Tusday the 10th of Agust, I doe intret your worship may be here at Dunrobine, be 8 a cloke the day forsaid, for doeing her the last honore by convoieng her corps to the said burial-please, which will doe me ane singulare courtisie and ingadge me to doe the lyke upon ocesion; and remenss, right worshipful, your worship's servant and coosin,

"J. SOUTHERLAND."[1]

[1] This Earl always prefixed the initial letter of his Christian name to his signature.

We feel sure that the bereaved gentlewoman got the loan of the pall, and that the procession from the Kirk of Saint Giles to the Cathedral, was to the deceased Laird's "credit:"—

"ffor the Right Honourable
The Laird of Gordonstoune—These:
"Bishopemeill,[1] *the* 29 *of Januarij* 1663.

"Right Honourable,—It has pleased the Lord to remove my husband, the Laird of Newtoune, from this lyffe to that eternall. Therfor these are seriouslie intreateing the favour as to honour his funeralls with your presence upone Seitterday, the last of this instant, betwix twellfe and one, frome Sant Julles Kirk to the Trenitie Churche, to his beireall. I doe lykweis humbely intreat your honour for the leine of your mort-clothe; for it is mor to his credit to have it nor the comone mort-clothe of Elgine, seing we expek sinderie of his freinds to be heire. So, to your honour's favorabill answer, and ever, I continew, as becometh, your honour's most humbell servand,

"Jean Campbell."

Sir Robert Farquhar had filled important situations in the north of Scotland; he had also been Provost of Aberdeen:[2]—

[1] Bishopmill was then a landward property; it has long since been built over, and it is now within the Parliamentary bounds of Elgin.

[2] A letter from Farquhar, before he was knighted, is given at page 47.

"I, Thomas Davidsone, Maister of the Musick Schooll in Aberdeene, grants me to have receaved all and hail the soume of two pund, auchteine shillings, Scotts money, for singing at umquill Sir Robert Farquhar of Mcuny his Lyk,[1] be this my tiket of resset subscryvit with my hand, at Aberdeene, the 15 day of Januarie 1666 yeires.

"THOMAS DAVIDSONE."

"I, John Cormack, Schoolmaster in Aberdene, grant me to have receaved two rex dollors, for reading at Sir Robert Farchar and his Lady their Lykwakes, as the custome is in this place. As witnes this my discharge written and subscryvit with my hand, at Aberdene, the nyntein day of Januarie Javije sixtie-six yeires.

"JO. CORMACK."

"I, James Horne, Burges of Aberdeene and Kirk-officer theroff, grants me to have receaved the soume off aucht ponds, Scotts money, for tolling of the Kirk-belles of Aberdeene at the buriell of Sir Robert Farquhar of Mowney, be thir presents subscryvit with my hand, at Aberdeene, the elevint day of Januarie Javije sixtie-six yeares.

"JAMES HORNE."

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[1] The 'Lyk' or 'Lykewake,' meant sitting in the room with the corpse during the night previous to the funeral; on such occasions those present generally drowned melancholy in deep potations.

"I, Thomas Vanhaghen, Bookbinder in Aberdeene, grants me to have receaved one pund, ten shillings, and that for ringien of the Tolboth-bell for Sir Robert Farqher his beriell, be thir presents writen and subscryved with myn own hand, at Aberdeene, the thritten day of Janiwarie 1666 yeares.

"THOMAS VANHAGHEN."

"The account of the Funeralls of the disceassed Sir Robert Farquhar of Munyie:—

	£	s.	d.
Imprimis, for three lairge Lossone armes, at three punds a peice, is . . .	09	00	00
Item, for four armes on the trumpet-flags, at feftie shillings a peice, is . .	10	00	00
Item, for two lairge Lossone armes of the Ladies, one for the yeat, another above the buriall place, at three punds a peice, is .	06	00	00
Suma is .	£25	00	00

"At Aberdeen, the aught of Janiverie 1666, receaved be me, Patrick Alexander, payment of the above written account, be this my recept written and subscryvit be me, the 8 of Janaverie 1666.

"PATRICK ALEXANDER."

"We, Arthor Johnstoun and John Reid, Trumpeters, grants us to have receaved four rix dollors, for going thorow the towne and discharging our dewitie

befor the corpes of Sir Robert Farqher at his burell, be thir presents written and subscryvit with our hands, at Aberdeene, the sevintenth day of May Javije sixtie-sixe.

"ARTHOR JOHNSTOUN.
JOHN REID."

"Ane accompt for printing of Epitaphs upon the death of the Right Worshipfull Sir Robert Farquhar of Munie :—

Item, for printing of fyve large Epitaphs in English and Lattin, . . .	£20	0	0
Item, for a lesser one in Lattin, . .	02	0	0
Item; for nyne queare of paper, at aucht shillings per queare, ...	03	12	0
Suma, .	£25	12	0

"Att Aberdene, the 16th of Januarij 1666, I grant me to have receaved twentie four pund,[1] Scots money, in compleat payment of this above-written accompt; in witnes, I have written this discharge, day and place foresaid.

"JOHN FORBES."

[1] Mr. Forbes seems to have given a liberal discount, we hope our printer intends to follow his example!

IX. CHURCH DISCIPLINE.

THE Moderator's letter is sufficiently explicit:—

"For the Right Worshipfull
SIR LUDOVICK GORDOUNE off Gordounstone.

"ELGIN, *Thursday, 10th May* 1660.

"RIGHT WORSHIPFULL,—The Synod att Elgin, in Aprill last, did referre, and recomend it, to the Presbitry of Elgin to take speciall notice of your contempt of publick worship and of your withdrawing yourselff from ordinances, especially of your own congregation (also to try the ground theirof), which hath given a great scandell to the wholl land. In relation to which refeir, the Presbitry did ordaine me, Moderator for the tyme, to wreatt to you, desyreing you to be present att our nixt presbiteriall mecting, to be at Elgin, Wednesday nixt, the 16th of this instant, that so you may, possiblie, vindicat yourselff and satisfie the Presbitry; which will tend much to God's glory and the good of His church, especially the congregation wheroff ye are a member. Which is all att present from him, who is, Sir, yours in the Lord,

"MR. JA. HORNE."

The Baronet paid no attention to the first blast:—

"For the Right Worshipfull
SIR LUDOVICK GORDOUN of Gordounstone—These:

"ELGIN, *May* 25, 1660.

"VERY WORSHIPFULL,—I did wreatt to you formerly, in our Presbiteries name, desyreing you to keep our meeting on Wednesday, was aucht dayes, bott wee heard nothing from you. Therfor the Presbitry did ordain me to wreatt this second to you, desyreing you to keep our nixt presbitereall meeting, at Elgin, on Wednesday nixt. This is all att present from yours in the Lord, and in our name,

"MR. JA. HORNE,
"*Moderator to the Presbitry of Elgin.*"

To the second blast the Baronet had evidently sent a protest:—

"The Moderator and the remanent brethern of the Presbyterie of Elgin to our lovitt—These being seen, yee, Walter Lesly, officer to the synod, passe to Sir Ludovick Gordon, and summons him to compeire befor the Synod of Murray, to be holden at Invernes, the 3rd day of Aprill with continuation of dayes, and there to answer for his subscribing of ane scandalous and sinfull protestatione against the Assemblie of Murray, the year as in itselfe it doth more fully proport; with certificatione as effeirs.

"Subscribed at Elgin, the 26th day of March 1661, by mee,

"SAM. TULLOCH,
"*Clerk to the Presbiterie.*"

Sir Ludovick having failed to appear before the Synod, that reverend body had brought his conduct under the notice of Parliament:—

"I, Sir William Bruce of Balcaskie, Knight, Clerk to the bills, and by the King's speciall warrand appoynted His Majestie's receaver of the fynes imposed by the Parliament assembled att Edinburgh, the nynth of September Jajvijc sixtie-two years (1662), grants me, by thir presents, to have instantlie receaved ffrom Sir Ludovick Gordoun of Gordounstoun, the soume of eighteen hundreth pounds, Scots money, as the last halfe[1] and in full and compleit payment of his wholle fyne laid on him by the said Parliament, and discharges him therof; consenting thir presents be registrat in the books of Counsell and Session, or any other books competent, therin to remain *ad futuram rei memoriam;* and for that effect constituts my procurators. In witnes wherof, I have subscryved thir presents (written be James Kennewie, my servitor), with my hand, att Edinburgh, the ffirst day of Januarie Jajvjc sixtie-six yeares (1666), before

[1] The first half was paid on the 1st February 1665.

thir witnesses, David Thomson, merchant in Edinburgh, and the said James Kennewie.

"W. BRUCE.

"David Thomson, *witnes.*
J. Kinnewie, *witnes.*"

Lady Fraser was widow of Andrew, second Lord Fraser, and probably a daughter of one of the Viscounts of Frendraught. The petition is dated 1685 :—

"*Unto the Right Honourable the Lords of His Majestie's Privie Counsell,*

"The Petitien of Dame Elizabeth Chrightan, Lady Douadger of Frazer ;

"*Sheweth,*

"That where the petitioner being charged with letters of horning purchast against her at the instance of Heugh Wallace of Inglestoune, His Majestie's cash-keeper, for payment-makeing to him of the soume of ane thousand eight hundreth and threttie-three pounds, thretteen shillings, and four pennies, Scots, specified in a decreit recovered at his instance against her, before the Sherif of Aberdein, and that for alleadged contraveining the laws and Acts of Parliament made againist Withdrawers from the public ordinances, Irregular baptismes and marradges, &c. It is therefore humblie represented to your Lordships in behalf of the petitioner, that as she was bredd from

her infancie under loyall and regular parents, so, all her lyfetyme hitherto, she hath evidenced the same by her deportment, she never having been at any Conventicle all her tyme; and, for her alleadged withdrawing from the ordinances, the treuth is that all her children being *foris familiat*, and she haveing reteined herself to her joynture-house at Cairnbulg, which is three miles from any church, and haveing neither men-servants nor horses, and she herself being ane adged seiklie persone, for those reasons, she was not able so oft and frequently to attend, bot, long before the obtaining of her decreit, fearing what offence might be taken, she took ane loadgeing in the toune of Frazerburgh, to the effect she might the more conveniently wait upon the publick ordinances, where, ever since, she hath been ane frequent and constant heirer; and, in particular, upon Yester-day last, did take the sacrament, as a testificat under the Bishop of Aberdein's hand, heirwith produced, doeth testifie.

"It is therefore humblie craved that your Lordships would be pleased to discharge the forsaid decreit, and all dilligence done or to be done thereupon, for the grounds above represented, the same being purchast upon groundles mistakes; and your petitioner shall ever pray."

X. THE MAGISTRATES AND COMMUNITY OF INVERNESS KEPT IN TERROR BY A TROUBLESOME NEIGHBOUR, 1676.

In former days, when a person dreaded an assault on himself or his property, it was usual to apply for "Letters of Lawburrows," that is, to ask the Court of Session to bind over the aggressor to keep the peace. The following document is titled on the back, "Lawborrowes, Provost and Baillies of Invernes against Andrew M^cKillican :"—

"Charles, be the grace of God, King of Great Brittain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, to our lovits,

Messengers, our Shirifs in that pairt, conjunctlie and severally specially constitute, greeting. fforsemeikle as it is humbly meaned and complained to us be our lovits Alexander Dunbar—Provest of Invernes, John Cuthbert, Robert Barbar, Alexander Ross, and William Duff—Baillies there, ffindlay ffraser—Dean of Gild, and George Cumming—Thesaurer of the said Burgh, for themselves, and in name and behalf of the haill remanent Counsell, Community, and Incorporatione of the said Burgh, and as representing them ;—

upon Andrew M^cKillican, in Haugh of Invernes, that where he haveing conceaved ane great and deadly hatred, malice, rancour, and envy against the saids compleaners, for what cause they know not, he himself, his wife, bairnes, men-tennants, servants, and others in his name, of his causeing, sending, hounding out, command, resett, assistance, and ratihabitione, daily and continually troubles and molests the saids compleaners, their wives, bairnes, men-tennents, servants, subtennents, and cottars, in the peaceable possessione, brooking, and joyseing of their landes, heretages, tenements, annualrents, goods, and gear; —eats and destroyes the cornes and grass growing thereupon, with his catle, bestiall, and goods;—makes comon high wayes, roads, and passages therthrough, on horse and foot, where there were non wont to be of befoir;—casts doun their deicks;—destroyes their heinings[1] with the plantings and pollicie therof; casts and winnes peats, turves, fewall, faill, and divott upon the boundes and landes belonging to the saids compleaners and to the said Burgh, in property and comontie;—teills, manures, and ryves up the samen, and appropriates the samen unto his own use, without licence, liberty, or tollerance from the saids compleaners;—and, not content therwith, daily, be himself and his forsaids, boasts, shoares,[2] and

[1] *Heinings* probably mean *enclosures.*

[2] *Shoares* means *swears at.*

minaces the saids compleaners and their forsaids for their bodily harme, awowing to put violent handes in their persones and to berive them of their lyves; and for performing of his wicked and ungodly intentiones, be himself and his forsaids lyes al await in the saids compleaners their high wayes and passages, wherthrough they may not safely repair to kirk, mercat, and other publick places within this our realme, with out great hazard of their lyves; and giveing therby evill example to others to doe and comitt the lyke in tymeuming, in high and proud contempt of us, our authoritie, and lawes, without remeid be provyded therto.

"OUR WILL IS THEIRFOIR, and we charge you straitly, and command that, incontinent thir our letters seen, yee pass and take the saids compleaners their oathes that they dread the persones above complained upon, their bodily harme and oppressione, be way and in maner forsaid; and, the samen being taken, command the said Andrew M'Killican personally, if he can be apprehended, and failzing herof, at his dwelling place,[1] and be open proclomatione at the mercat cross of the head-burgh of the Shirifdome where he dwells, to come and find sufficient cautione, seuerty, and lawborrowes acted in the books of our Counsell and

[1] When a messenger failed to apprehend a person, he "knokit six chaps on the most patent duor of his dwelling place, and affixit ane copie of our soveraine Lord's letters therto."

Sessione, that the saids compleaners, their wives, bairnes, men-tennents, servants, subtennents, and cottars shall be harmeless and skaithless of the said Andrew M^cKillican, his wife, bairnes, men-tennents, servants, in the peaceable possessione, brooking, and joyseing of the landes, heretages, tenements, anual-rents, tacks, steadings, rooms, possessiones, goods, and gear, and on no wayes shall be baulked nor molested be them theruntill, nor be no others of their causeing, sending, hounding out, command, resett, assistance, and ratihabitione, whom he may stopp or let directly or undirectly, from the day of the charge to be given for finding of the said seuertie, otherwayes than be order of law and justice, under the paine of four hundreth merks money of this our realme, within fyftein dayes nixt after he be charged be you therto, under the paine of rebellione and putting of him to the horne; wherin if he failzie, the saids fyftein being bypast, that, incontinent therafter, yee denunce the disobeyer our rebell, and put him to the horne, and escheat and inbring his haill movebles, goods, and gear to our use, for his contempt; and, immediatly after your said denunciatione, that yee use the haill remanent order prescrybed be our Act of Parliament made theranent, according to justice, as yee will answer to us therupon; the which to doe wee comitt to you, conjunctlie and severally, our full power be thir our letters, delyvering them, be you duely execute

and indorsed, again to the bearer. Given under our signet, att Edinburgh, the thretein day of July, and of our reigne the twentie eight year. 1676.

" *Ex deliberatione dominorum Concilij.*

"ARCH. THOMSONE.

" Writin be Mr James Marten,
my servitor. 17 Julij 1678."

XI. A KNIGHT-BACHELOR'S FEES OF COMMISSION, 1682.

Sir John Gordon was third son of the second Baronet of Gordonston. After finishing his education at Utrecht,[1] he had returned to Scotland, and, having passed an examination in Civil Law, had been admitted to the Bar, 20th January 1681, on paying the usual "entrie . money," which was five hundred merks Scots :—

"I, Robert Childers, saidler, burges .of Edinburgh, and one of His Majestie's Trumpeters, for myself and in name and behalf of the remanent, my brethering, his Majestie's Trumpeters, and as factor specialie constitute be them to the efeckt underwriten, conform to the letters of factorie granted be them to me, of the date the fourt day of August Jajvic and sextie aught years (1668), and registrat in the books of Exchequar,

[1] Many letters which he received when on the Continent are extant. How they ever reached their destination is a marvel. One posted at Edinburgh in March 1678, is addressed, "A Monsieur, Monsieur Popill, marchand, demeurant au rue de St. Remis, pour faire tenir, si luy plait, a Monsieur Gordon, gentilhome Escossois, ou il sera.

"A Bourdeaux.

"Per Londre and Paris."

the fyft day of the said month, grants me to have receaved from Sir John Gordon of Durno, Knight, the soum of twentie merks, Scots money, and that for his Titell-of-Honor deservedly confered upon him by His Seckrad Majestie: And therfor I, for myself, and as factor forsaid, exoners, quyt-clames, and simpliciter discharges him and his airs, off the forsaid soum so receaved, for myself, and as factor foresaid, and for the caus above written, and oblidges me to warant thir presents at all hands whatsomever. In witnes wherof, I have subscryved thir presents with my own hand, at Edinburgh, the twentie fourth day May Jajvic fourscor two years (1682), befor ther wittness, William Carnegy, wryter herof, and Alexander Nisbet,[1] servitour to the said Sir John Gordon of Durno.

"Ro. CHILDERS.

"William Carnegy, *witnes.*
Al. Nisbet, *witnes.*"

"I, William Cokburne, Wryter in Edinburgh, specialie constitute be Sir Archbald Cokburne of Langtoune, Barronett, Gentleman Usher to His Majestie, for uplifting the fies and dues payable to him by the Knight-Batchellers for the Honor of Knighthood, conforme to his letters of factorie dated the tenth day of December Jajvic fourscore yeirs (1680), registrat in

[1] Probably the celebrated writer on Heraldry.

the Comissarie-court books of Edinburgh upon the first day of Februarie Jajvic fourscore ane yeirs (1681), grant me to have received frae Sir John Gordoune of Durno, Advocat, Knight, fourtie pounds Scotts, as the saids fies due by him to the said Sir Archbald Cokburne, as Usher forsaid, for the Honor of Knighthood conferred upon him; and therfor I, as factor forsaid, exoner and discharge the said Sir John Gordoune of the saids fies and dues, by thir presents, for now and ever. In witnes wherof, I have written and subscryved thir presents, at Edinburgh, the nyntein day of May 1682.

"WM. COKBURNE."

"I, Master Robert Innes, Writter to His Majestie's Signett, factor and collector specially constitute be the Lyon Heraulds and Pursivants, conforme to ther letters of factorie granted to me theranent, dated the seven day of November Jajvic seventy-seven years (1677), registrat in the books of Counsell and Session upon the twenty two day of the forsaid moneth and year of God above written, grant me, heirby, to have received payment and satisfaction from Sir John Gordoune, Advocat, of the soume of one hundredth merks, Scots money, as the fie and casualitie due be him to the said Lyon Heraulds and Pursivants, for the Title and Dignity of Knight-Batchelour, lately

conferred on him be His Royall Higness, Commissioner for His Most Sacred Majesty. Of the which soume of ane hundredth merks, money forsaid, as the fee and casualitie above specified, I, as factor forsaid, for me, my constituents, and all others whom it effiers, exoner, quite-claime, and simpliciter discharge the said Sir John Gordoune, his aires, exekitors, and all others whom it concernes, for ever; obleidgeing me to warrand thir presents to be good, valid, and sufficient to the said Sir John Gordoune and his above-written, at all hands and against all deadly. In witness wherof (written be John Innes, my servitor), I have subscryved thir presents with my hand, at Edinburgh, the sextein day of Agust Jajvic eightie twa years (1682), befor these witnesses, Alexander Innes and the said John Innes, my servitors.

"ROB. INNES.

"Al. Innes, *witness.*
John Innes, *witness.*"

"Wee, undersubscrybing, the four Maccers befoir the Lords of Counsell and Sessione, grants us to have receaved from the Right Wirshipfull Sir John Gordoune of Durno, Advocat, conform to His Sacered Majestie's gift, the soume of twentie merks, Scots money, and that for the Title and Honnour of Knighthood most

deservedly confered upon him by His Royall Hignes The Duck of Albanie, His Majestie's High Commissioner for this kingdome. Of the which soume of twentie merks, mony forsaid, wee grant the recept, and, for our selfe, airs, and successors in this office, exoners, quyte-clames, and discharges him, his airs and successors, therof for ever. In witnes wherof, wee all have subscrybed thir presents (written be James Gordoune, one of the said Maccers), with our hands, at Edinburgh, the second day of December 1682.

"A. CUNNYNGHAM.
ALEXR. HAMILTON.
THO. MAITLAND.
JA. GORDOUNE."

"Wee undersubscrybing, Macers to His Majestie's Privie Councell and Exchequer, grant us, be the tenor herof, to have receaved from Sir John Gordon of Durno, Knight, Advocate, the soume of twentie merks, Scotts money, and that as the fiee and casualitie due and payable be him to us for the said Title-of-Honor conferred be His Majestie upon him, and therefore we heirby exoner and discharge the said Sir John Gordon, and all others whom it effeires, of the said fiee and casualitie for now and ever. In witnes wherof, we have subscrybed thir presents with our

hands, at Edinburgh, the thretieth day of December Jajvic eightie tuo yeares (1682), befor thir witnesses, David Callender and Johne Patersone, Wryters in Exchequer.

"Jo. HENRYSON.
JON. SHAW.

"David Callender, *witness.*
Jo. Paterson, *witness.*"

Sir John, notwithstanding his subsequent success, had become an Advocate most reluctantly, as appears from the following letter, which he wrote on his return from the Continent:—

ffor Sir LUDOVICK GORDON of Gordonstoune
in Elgin, Scotland—These:

"LONDON, *Aprile* 15, 1679.

DEAR ffATHER,—I am reallie at a stand on what to fix, or what way to employ myself; if accordingly to that to which, with great expense and caire, you bred me, then I must come home to Edinburgh, must not only be a Prentice to some Advocat of the first or second rate, be a companion (not to say worse) of clerks, scrybes, and agents or punie procurators, and a beggar to all men of interest or employment, but, moreover, must enlarge the phylactyries of my consience to accept of all oaths that are imposed, and consent to see acted, and be accessory to, a thousand

concussions and other enormities inevitablie inherent to the trade; otherwayes shall labour in vain. It is true I am readie, as my dutie is, to come home in obedience to your comand, and to expede any busines I may be capable to doe for so kind a parent, but shall beg leave to tell you that, if I were to choose my way of living, should think one of these two fittest —either endeavour to know something of the English Law in some Innes-of-Court, and then, if it pleased God I profited, might for a little money have some place here; or else joyn-in any little thing, you would be pleased to give me, with some Merchant-adventurer, and in the mean tyme, if I found occasion, wait upon any English gentleman abroad, or doe anything else that I could be fitt for. Since my coming to London, which was a month agoe, has got three pound sterling from Gawne Laurie, which was but sufficient but for dyet; and for other necessars behooved to take them on trust; entreats you would be pleased to order him to advance me some money to buy a soot of cloaths to carrie me home. I am your sone and humble servant,

"JON. GORDON."

We cannot resist giving a letter which Sir John, then a young student, received on the Continent; it was written by his stepmother, Jean, daughter of

John Stewart of Ladywell, and second wife[1] of Sir Ludovic Gordon of Gordonston :—

"For JOHN GORDON
"at Uteright—These :

"DRENIE, 12 *Maiy*.

"SIR,—My last was so unfortinat as to be keapit, tho the los discovird no tressin, nor disapoyntid anie great businis I had to doe, but deleayed a pise of trubill I intended to put you too. Be plesid to by as manie pearill as wil go ons about my neck ; lett them be wyld, upright, and round ; lett them not be deir, but of en prys about forti shilings. I fear I most rest your dettir for a tym, I cannot send monie for presint, being stretind with tym, your feathir[2] giveing so short advertisment. No mor, but am still your afectionat mothir,

"J. STEWART.

"If ther be anie lett book set out by our Deivyns, send me a good one."

[1] She was a widow possessing a good deal of property in Edinburgh, when the Baronet married her; their contract of marriage is dated 6th March 1669.

[2] Fancy a man of weight—the Premier Baronet of Scotland—being called "feathir"!

XII. EAST NEW JERSEY, 1684.

KING CHARLES II. having granted to his brother, James, Duke of York, certain tracts of land in America, His Royal Highness, in June 1644, "did grant, convey, and assure to John, Lord Barclay, and Sir George Cartrat, their heirs and assigneys, all that tract of land in America called Nova Cæsaria, or New Jersey;" and the executors and trustees of Sir George Cartrat, in February 1681, sold to William Pen, of Worminghurst, in the county of Sussex, Esquire, and eleven partners, "all that part of the said New Jersey called, or known by the name of, East New Jersey." Pen and his brother speculators afterwards admitted twelve additional partners, among whom were the Earl of Perth, Robert Barclay of Ury,[1] David Barclay, younger, of Ury, John Drummond of Lundie, and Robert Gordon of Clunie.

In December 1683, Sir John Gordon of Durno bought the share of one of Pen's original partners. From his papers we select some documents of interest.

[1] Robert Barclay of Ury was son and heir of Major David Barclay of Mathers, by his wife Katherine, eldest daughter of Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonston; the contract of marriage is dated 24th December 1647.

commencing with a letter written by the author of *An Apology for the Quakers*:—

"For Sir John Gordon, Advocat, in Edinburgh.

"Ury, *the* 4 *of the* 1*st month* 1684.

"Dear Cousine,—I suppose thou has wrott ere now, to London, to thy brother George, and proposed to him to bring down his veshell here to cary passengers to East-Jersey. I doubt not but he may make as good a venter that way as any he can propose, and knows how to project a retourn for himself. There will not want passengers, besids those that fills another ship to be hired, and one that is goeing from Glasgow with Manyward, which will be the best way. And, besids those George may carry upon thy brother's accompt and thine's, iff he want, it is but getting men from Strathnaver, to cary over at a venter, which is as profitable[1] a commodity as he can trade in; the sooner something be done in this the better. I expect also from thee a speedy answere as to that part now in thy optione, that thou will determine it one way or other, that I may regulate myself accordinglie. If George com with his ship so as to be ready to goe about Whitsunday, he will be sure to be full, for the other is

[1] The pious Quaker and his friends subsequently got a supply of the "profitable commodity" at a cheap rate, as appears by a paper now before us, headed thus:—"Ane List of the hundred prisoners, in the Castle of Donattar and under the Parliament House, to be delyvered to Mr. George Scott of Pitlochie, in order to their transportatione to East New Jersey, according to ane Act of Counsell for that effect, 12 March 1685."

to com afterwards. Desir him to call at London to William Bockura, at Litle St. Helen's, over against Leathersellars' Hall in Bishopgait Street, who will give him fuil informatione in what may be needfull for him.

"So, expecting thy care in this, and that thou will lett no time be lost, which is the cheif point in such caises, I rest thy affectionat cousine, B."

Gawen Laurie, Deputy-Governor of East New Jersey, thus describes the province, in a letter of which the address is unfortunately lost:—

"*March 26th*, 1684.

"LOVING FRIEND,—I promised to write to thee when God brought me to Jearsey, but I had not tyme till now. I shall give thee a briefe accompt of the country, no fiction, but truth. It is, beyond what I expected, situated in a good aire, which makes it healthy, and ther is a great conveniency of traveling from place to place through the province in boats, from a small cannoe to vessells of 30, 40, 50, and, in some places, 100 ton. In the bay coming up to Amboy Point, a ship of 300 ton can easily ride close to the shoar, within a plank's length, just before the houses of the town, and yet the land there, nor otherwher in the province, is not low swampy marsh, but pretty high ground rising from the water-side. At Amboy the bank of the river is 20 foot, in places 30,

in some 40 foot high, and yet many conveniencies for landing goods. The soyle is generally black, in some places a foot deepe, beareth great burthens of corne, and naturally brings forth English grasse after two years' plowing. The ground is tender, and the plowing very easy. The trees grow generally not thick, but in some places 10, some 15, 20, or 30 upon an acre; this generally, but in some particular places they are 100 on one acre, but rarely. The trees are very tall and straight, the generall sort are oak, beech, walnutt, chesnutt, gum-tree, cedar, white-wood like our poplar-tree, and makes sufficient boardes; and in some places there is abundance of firr-trees. Walnutts, chesnutts, and acorns lye thick on the ground for want of eating. Peaches, vines, strawberries, and many other sorts of fruit, grow commonly in the woods. Ther is great plenty of oysters, fish, and fowle. Pork is two pence per pound, beef and venison one penny per pound, a whole fat buck for five or six shillings, Indian corn two and sixpence per bushell, oats twenty pence, barly two shillings. Wee have good brick-earth and stone, for buildding, at Amboy and elsewhere. The countrey farm-houses are built verry cheap; a carpenter with a man's own servantts builds the house; they have all materialls for nothing, except nailes; their chimneys are of stone. They make their own ploughs and carts for the most part, only the iron-worke is verry deare. The poorer sort

set up a house of 2 or 3 roomes themselves in this manner:—the walls are of cloven timber about eight inches broad, lyke planks, set on end in the ground, nailed to the raising, which they plaister verry warme; they build a barne after the same manner; and these cost not the landlord above five pounds a piece; then to work they go, two or three men will cleare in one yeare fifty acres, in some places sixty or more; they sow corne the first yeare, and afterwards mantain themselves, and the encrease of the corne, cows, horses, hoggs, and sheep, comes to the landlord. Severall merchants of New York have settled plantations in East Jearsy; two or three joyn together, keep fifteen or twenty servantts and ane oversear, all which cost them nothing after the first yeare, except some shoes, stokings, and shirts, their clothes being all of skins. I have been to these plantations, and find they make a great encrese by them, mantaining their familys in New York with all provisions, sell a great deale yearly, and raise estates. Our English people are far better husbandmen than the New England men that setle heer. Servantts work not heer so much, by a third part, as they doe in England, and, I think, feed much better, for they have beef, pork, bacon, pudding, milk, butter, fish, and fruit, more plentifully than in England, and good beer and cyder for drink. When they are out of their tyme they have land for themselves, and generally turn farmers

for themselves. Servantts' wages are not under two shillings a day, besides victualls, and at Amboy Point two shillings and sixpence per day. At Amboy we have one setting up to make mault, but want a brewer. A biskett-maker also we must have, to vent our meale to the plantations. Send over some hundred men, country fellows, that can plough, sow, reap, thresh, and looke after cattle, etc., and I will sett thee out a brave plantatione, but thou must send some goods to stock it withall. I desire thee to encourage some of our friends, especially the proprietors, to send servantts to stock some land. After they have cleared and stocked it, if they will lett it, here are tenentes eneugh to take it; and if they will sell, here are also purchasers. Ther is one man who, since I came hither, sold his plantation for fifteen hundred pounds; the whole was 1600 or 1800 acres, wherof 120 were cleared, but on which he had a house, barns, orchard, and garden planted. I know severall men who lett cleared land at six shillings and eight pence, and some at ten shillings, per acre, yearly rent, which is a good encouragement for sending over servantts to plant. I write not this as ane idle story, but as things truly and really are. I have sent for servantts myself to setle a farme for me, for if the proprietors will not doe so, I cannot see what they can expect to have their interest come to. I sett out good land for every one that sends over servantts; and those who send

none must expect to have their land lye farr backward, it being unreasonable that we should improve land for others who are at no charge; and if none improve, then all is lost. The Scots have taken a right course, they have sent over many servantts, and are sending more; they have lykeways sent severall poor familys and given them a small stock; and these familys, some for seven years, some for ten years, allow halfe the encrease to their landlords, except the milk, which the tenant has to himselfe. I have sett them out land, and they are at work, I belive they will have forty acres sown this spring; and this summer I am to sett them out more, so that in a short time they will have a great increse coming in. This will raise the price of land here, and is the reason that severall from New York-bounds come to me to take up land, for they now belive this province will be improved; so that every proprietor sending over ten people, will be a great advantage to himselfe. Encourage others to take up land, and bring all those divisions that have been here, to an end, for these seing that they shall be ballanced, are already more complyant than they were.

"Now I have laid these things before thee, I desire thee to impart them to some of the proprietors and other friends, that they may consider the same.

"I am thy loving friend,

"GAWEN LAURIE."

A younger son of Barclay of Ury announces the death of his cousin, George Gordon,[1] who, poor fellow, had embarked but four months before (26th August 1685) at Aberdeen :—

"ffor Sir JOHN GORDON, Advocate—These :

"AMBOY PEARTH, 1*st ffebruarie* 168$\frac{5}{6}$.

"LOVEING CUSEN,—I am sorrie of the ocation of my writting to thee at this time, which is to acquaint thee that thy deare brother, George, departed out of this life, the 29th Januarie about 12 at night, and was buried yesterday. He was verry perfect untill the moment of his death, and was very sencible. His funerall was as deacent as could be expected in this place. I doe herewith send thee a coppie of his Will. He wrote to thee himselfe a few days before he died, which thou may expect with the next opportunitie. And, haveing but 2 or 3 houres warning of this ocation, I cannot fullie informe thee of his affaires, which I shall take care to doe per next; so, being now in haste, must now conclude. From thy loving cusen,

"JOHN BARCLAY."

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[1] Gordon had learned "the airt and trade of merchandizeing" as apprentice to Mr. Robert Blaikwood, merchant in Edinburgh; his Indentures are given in former series, pages 138-142. His youngest brother, Charles, fifth son of Sir Ludovic Gordon, was also placed under the care of Blaikwood, whose shop was situated "at the east end of the Lockenbooths," but the worthy merchant could make nothing of the wild youth, who was therefore, as a last resource, bound apprentice to George Dallas of St. Martins, Writer to the Signet.

In his Will, which is dated "Att Amboy-Perth in East New Jersy," 20th January 168$\frac{6}{5}$, George Gordon commits his soul to Almighty God, orders payment of his debts, and proceeds thus:—

"I give and bequeath in tokens to commarads, as followeth, to witt—to Thomas Gordon, all my printed books and mathematicall instruments; to Mr. Charles Gordon, his brother, ane pair of hulster pistolls and my new periwig; to Robert Fullerton, my own gun; to William Laing, all my wearing apparell and linnings; to John Barclay, my Lignum-vitæ punch-boul and silver tumbler; to Doctor Robertson, three pounds, New York money, for his care and paines, besides payment of his accompts, and if he pleases, for his own satisfactione and future experience, to open and see the cause of my death, he may; to my servant John Brown, I discharge what money he receaved from me in Scotland, and abaits him one year of his service; to my servant Jean Morison, I give and allow her twentie two shillings and six pence, yearly, mor than what is contained in her Indentures, for wearing apparell and other necessaries furnishing to herself, being in New York money; and to my dearest brother, Sir John Gordon, all the remainder of my estate in this world. And I hereby appoint John Barclay and William Laing my executors; and to the said William Laing I allow mantenance in my family

for the first year after my deceass, and if he continues any longer to oversie my servants and plantatione befor my said brother, Sir John, sends him new orders or appoints any other in his place, I allow him ten pounds, New York money, yearlie, after the first said year, besydes mantenance as said is. And my earnest desyre is that my sword be sent home to my said brother, Sir John, with the first convenient occatione. And to all these preceeding articles I sett my hand and seal, as being my last Will and Testament, the year, and place, above mentioned.

"GEORGE GORDON."

John Brown, who, by the Will, was to have one year of his service remitted, had probably engaged on the same terms as John Dickson, who, by an Indenture, dated 30th July 1685, bound himself to embark at Leith, in the ship called "The America Merchant" (John Vevers, commander), for East New Jersey, with George Gordon, and to serve him for four years after their arrival in the province, on the following conditions, to be fulfilled by the master:—

"To pay for his passage,[1] and to find and allow him meat and drink during the said tyme, and cloaths in

[1] The passage-money (including provisions, we think) amounted to £5, 5s.

manner efterspecefiet, to witt--two sute of leather in the four years, or one sute of course cloaths yearly; two pair of hose yearly; two shirts, two pair of shoes, two westcoatts, and two pair of drawers, and four neckcloaths, yearly; and, at the end of the said four years, the soume of Four Pounds Sterling, or the value of it in the product of the countrie, or land to the value therof, as the said John Dickson shall think best."

XIII. EXPORT OF GRAIN; RETURN CARGO; SKIPPERS' LETTERS.

Ships in which grain had been exported from the North to the South of Scotland, or to England, often brought back coal, lime, etc. It will be seen that deals formed the return cargo from Norway :—

"Chartor Pairtie betwixt Robert Gordon, younger of Gordonstoun, and Alexander Atcheson, 1679.

"Att Edinburgh, the threttie day of Januarij Jajvic seventie nyne years, it is appointed, contracted, finallie endit, and aggreid betwixt the parties following—they are to say—Robert Gordon, younger of Gordonstown, on the ane pairt, and Alexander Atcheson, skipper of the good ship called the Penelope of Pittenweim, on the other pairt, in maner, forme, and to the effect as after follows. That is to say, the said Alexander Atcheson, Master of the said good ship, has sett and letten, and, be the tenor heirof, for the fraught underwritten, setts and letts, to the said Robert Gordon, his said ship, and binds and obliedges him, wind and weather serving, betwixt and the first

day of March nixt in this instant year, to come with his said ship to the port of Ferrieoyus in Sutherland, and there to abyd and remain fourtein work weather lye dayes, upon the intaking and receaving from the said Robert Gordon, or his order, the number and quantitie of eight hundreth bolls bear, and therefrae to transport the samen to the port of Druntoun in Norway, and there to dlyver the samen as becomes, and for that effect, to attend and lye there other fourtein work weather lye dayes, for deliverie thereof; and also to take in and receave there in his said ship ane sufficient loadining of timber, being daills; and with all convenient diligence, wind and weather serving, to returne back with his said ship, being loadned with the saids daills, to the said port of Ferrieoyus in Sutherland, and there unloaden the saids daills as accords. And also to remain there with his said ship other fourtein work weather lye dayes, for intaking and receaving from the said Robert Gordon, or his order, all and haill the number and quantitie of other eight hundreth bolls of bear, and therefrae to transport the samen to Roterodame in Holland, and there to attend and waitt with his said ship other fourtein work weather lye dayes, for delyvering of the said bear. And to this effect, the said Alexander Atcheson, skipper forsaid, binds and obliedges him, his aires, executers, and successors to have his said ship, befor and against the said first day of March nixt to come,

sufficientlie drest and water-ticht under and above, and provydit with a floatboat, mariners, saills, anchors and cabls, tows, victualls, and all other necessares requisit; and obliedges him and his forsaids that he and his company shall doe their honest dewtie in sailling and convoying the said ship from and to the respective ports abovewritten, as alsoe in receaving and delyvering of the said bear and daills respective, as is above sett doune, and suffer none therof to be awaytaken, watt, or deminished in default of the said skipper his said company, or of the said ship, in any maner of way. For the whilks causes, the said Robert Gordon, younger of Gordonstoun, binds and obleidges him, his aires, executors, and successors to pay and delyver, at least cause be paid and delyvered, to the said Alexander Atcheson, his aires, executors, or assigneys, for carying and transporting of the said first eight hundreth bolls of bear from Ferrieoyus to Druntoun, and for bringing back therfrae to the said port of Ferrieoyus, the forsaid fraught of daills, all and haill the soume of two thousand merks, Scots money, in maner following, viz., ane thousand merks, in rix dollars, at the said port of Druntoun, within the space of fourtie-eight hours nixt after his loadning therat, and ane other thousand merks, in compleitt payment of the said soume, at the said port of Ferrieoyus, within the space of twentie-four hours nixt after his returne and disloadning the saids daills therat; as

lykwayes the said Robert Gordon binds and obliedges him and his forsaids to pay, or cause to be payed, to the said Alexander Atcheson and his forsaids, at the said port and city of Roterodame, all and haill the number and quantitie of twentie two stivers, Hollands money, for ilk boll of the said number and quantitie of eight hundreth bolls bear to be transported thither, and that within the space of twentie-four hours after deliverie of the said bear at Roterodame, togither with[1] to the said skipper for the saids haill voyages; with rowage, towage, and pettie pylages, as use is. And if it shall happen the said good ship, called the Penelope of Pittenwein, not to be of the burden of the said quantitie of eight hundreth bolls bear, and not to contain and carry the samen, in that case the said Alexander Atcheson, skipper forsaid, binds and obleiges him and his forsaids to defalk his respective fraughts accordinglie; and if she takes in any more bear nor is above written, and delyver the samen at the ports above sett doun, in that case the said Robert Gordon binds and obliedges him and his forsaids to pay fraught therfor, proportionallie, as is above mentioned. And farder, if it shall happen the said ship to be stayed at all or any of the saids ports, longer than the lye days respective above sett down,

[1] In a Charter Party, dated 3d March 1680, we find a similar space filled up thus:—"together with ane sufficient new hat in Caplakene to the said skipper." A gratuity, "in name of Caplacken," was always given to the Captain.

then the said Robert Gordon binds and obliedges him and his forsaids to pay to the said skipper the soume of ten pounds, Scots money, for ilk day the said ship shall stay therafter, in defalt of the said Robert Gordon, for cost, skaith, and damnage. And lastlie, both the saids parties binds and obliedges them and their forsaids to doe and performe the premisses, *hinc inde*, to others, under the penaltie of ane thousand merks, Scots money, to be payed be the pairtie failzear to the pairtie performer or willing to performe the premisses, and that by and attour[1] fullfilling of the samen. Consenting that thir presents be insert and registrat in the book of Counsell and Session, or any other books compitent within this kingdom, to have the strength of ane decreit, that letters of horning on six dayes, and other executions in forme as effeirs, may be direct theron; and therto constitutes their procurators. In witnes wherof, written be Mr. John Nisbet, Writer in Edinburgh, both pairties have subscrived thir presents, day, place, month, and year of God above written, befor wittnesses—Patrick Johnstoun, indweller in Leith, and the said Mr. John Nisbet.

"R. GORDON.

ALEXR. ATCHESON.

"P. Johnstoune, *witnes.*

Jo. Nisbet, *witnes.*"

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[1] *By and attour* means *over and above.*

Payment to be made in money, wine, and iron :—

"At Edinburgh, the fifth of Marche Jajvic sevintie nyne years (1679), it is agrered betwixt Robert Gordon, younger of Gordonstoun, and Magnus Prince, present Thresour of Edinburgh, in maner following. The said Robert Gordon has sold, and by thir presents obleidges him to delyver, to the said Magnus, or ane having his order, the number of five hundreth bolls bear of the grouth of the Earldom of Sutherland, the crope 1678, sufficeent merchant stuff with the Lithgow measure, and that at the ports of Pollehurwch overagainst Taine, or Ferriehoous, both in Sutherland, and that betwixt the first day of May next, under the failsie of foure pound Scots for ilk undelivered boll, and the said Robert is to advertice the said Magnus att which of the said ports he is to deliver, betwixt and the first of Appryll nixt. For which cause, the said Magnus Prince binds and obleidges him, his aires and exeketors, to pay to the said Robert, his aires or assignes, five merks for ilk delivered boll, betwixt and Lambes next, under the failsie of three hundreth merks in caice of failzie, and annual rent after the tyme. And the said Robert is to have the halfe of the price of the victuall, in money, and the other halfe in goods, namely, two halfe butts of Sacke, at twentie one pound sterling the butts ; three hogshead of French wine, att twentie-foure pound sterling the tunn ; three hundreth stane of Iron, att

two merks the stane; and what the goods shall extend, the halfe to be allowed in part payment of the other halfe payable in money. And the said Magnus is to deliver the goods to James Starge, skipper, and to take his bill-of-lodning therefore. In witnes whereof, both parties has subscrived thir presents, day, place, and year forsaid, before thir witneses—Mr. Thomas Gordon, Wretter to the Signat, wretter hereof, and James Gordon, his servant, and John Craige and William Menzies, serviters to the said Magnus Prince.

"R. GORDON.

Tho. Gordon, *witnes.* MAGNUS PRINCE.
Ja. Gordon, *witnes.*
John Craige, *witnes.*
William Menzies, *witnes.*"

Lauchlane M'Beane, Master of the good ship "The Margaret of Inverness," was employed to carry grain from the Capital of the Highlands, and "to try the mercat" at Fraserburgh or at Peterhead, as also at Crail or at Anstruther. He thus describes his reception at one of these ports:—

"ffor his much respected freinds GEORGE CUMING, Theasurer of Invernes, and JAMES DUNBAR, Merchant there; for the present at Edinburgh.

"CREILLE, 29 *Aprill* 1677.

"MUCH RESPECTED FREINDS,—I admyre much that non of you cam this way as ye promised. I cam heir

this day aught dayes, and has not sold past the halfe of your barley as yett; therfor I desyr to know what sall be don with it. As I was forgainst the harbour, I did call for a boat, which did tow me in heir. Ane Inglish man being heir, and he had two Lapister-kists[1] in the harbour-muth, and the boatmen towed close on them; and they aleadge that they did losse two hunder Lapisters; for which the Bailies[2] heir has fyned me in thretie punds Scots, and arested and lodged me in prison till I will pay the same, which I doe think ought not to be payed be me since that I haid a Poileot, and the chists lay right in the midle of the harbour-muth. Therfor I desyr that ye may speak summ agent upon my accompt, rather Mr. John Laudir than any man, and suspend the Bailies' decreit, because they are not competent judges, because what was don did belong to the Admyrall-court; but after I apelled from ther court, they susteined themselves; therfor, I pray you, doe in this the best you can. Houping ye will doe in this so much as ye can, I remain your very loving freind and servant,

"L. M'Beane."

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[1] Lobster-chests.

[2] In the year 1648, a ship carrying grain from Morayshire to Edinburgh, was captured by an Irish frigate, and brought before Crail, but the Bailies of that town redeemed the vessel and men for a thousand merks.—*Extracted from an original letter on the subject.*

Captain Cruikshank's ship was chartered by three gentlemen to carry their grain, fish, etc., to the London market :—

"Mr. Archibald Dunbar off Thoundertoune.

"Aboard the Ann of Findhorne,
in Brough-head Bay, *the 3rd Jully* 1716.

"Sir,—In answer to youres of the 2nd instant, know that, after haveing rod a prettie stout road in this place, have at last received aboard, from your servants, the goods contained in the bills-of-loading, and four half-hogsheads and fourtie-six ankers which I thought not proper to put into them, in caice should be oblidged to show my bill-of-loading to any of the men-of-war. This, as ye observe, is all for the company's account. I have lykewayes received for your oune account, to be delivred to your lady's sister, one hogshead with botles, one anker, a litle box, a small cagg, 6½ doson speldings, all which, you may depend upon, shall be taken care of. I thank you kindly for your compliment of brandy and fish, which I have taken aboard, as also your lady's three doson more than I have insert in bills-of-loading. I am, with dutiefull respects to yourself and discreet lady, Sir, your most humble servant,

"John Cruikshank."

XIV. FRIENDLY LETTERS FROM NOBLEMEN.

Lord Huntly, who succeeded his father as second Duke of Gordon, was a stanch friend, but his Lordship's spelling and grammar would astonish a Highland schoolmaster of the present day :—

"For the Mutch Honored the Laird of Alter.

"Gordon Castle, 10*th December* 1708.

"Laird of Alter,—I shall be extreamly glad to know if you got a letter from my father, in answer to yours sent in recomendation of a hyland scoolmaster, some months ago. He sent you a letter, in answer to yours by the scoolmaster. I writt a postscript to you in my father's letter, hee having given me leave. The contents of mine to you was to thank you most kindly for your frendship on all ocassions, particularly in the affaire betwixt Burdsyards and Innes; and also to lett you know I had hard some notorius both rogs and lyers should have dun ther indevors to perswaid you I was not so mutch your frend as the rest of my predecessors had been to yours; all which I ashured you was fals; and desired the favor of you, whoever had said so, to tell them, from me, they were both lyars

and rascals, which you shall find in all ocassions wherin I have the oportunity of showing you I am your, and your family's, most ashured frend; and belive mee to bee, Laird of Alter, your most afectionate frend and humble servant, HUNTLY."

When Lord Huntly wrote thus of the Roman Catholic Church, he little dreamt that his children were, after his death, to be brought up in the Protestant faith by their mother, Henrietta, Duchess of Gordon:—

"For the Mutch Honored the LAIRD OF ALTER, younger.

"EDINBURGH, 24*th November* 1712.

"KIND FREND,— . . . I follow a church I have very good reson, and am oblidged, to beleive is so infallible, by which I am forbeed to follow privat opinion either of my own (of which, I thank God, I have none but according to the beleefe of the church it has pleased God to bee so gracius to mee as to grant mee the intere beleefe in) or others. Your call may seem to you good, but take caire of fals Profets; the Divell is too cunning for us often, and, I own to you, were I not of a beleefe that the church I am of, wer infallible, I should never pas one moment, sleeping or awake, quiat or at any ease att all.

"I know not what your new call may insinuat to you as to frendship, but I am shure it is fals if it dos

not convince you of my being very sencible of your merit, of your civilitys to mee, and that I am unalterably to yourselfe, father, mother, and all your family, both known and unknown, a most sincere graitfull frend and a most reddy humble servant,

"HUNTLY."

The father of the young gentleman in whose favour Lord Strathnaver (son of the Earl of Sutherland) wrote, was Major John Dunbar, a man of good family, and an officer who had served under Marlborough :—

"To Mr. SUTHERLAND,
Master-Builder to His Majestie, att Sheerness.

"DUNROBIN, *April 22nd*, 1732.

"SIR,—This goes by one Archbald Dunbar, a gentleman's son, who's ffather was ane Officer in my ffather's regiment, and lives now under me, hard by this place.

"The young man, the bearer, has choiced the employment of a ship-carpenter, and, as I have a regard for him, I know not where he could be better recomended than to you, since I am perswaded, upon my account, you will doe for him as much as possibly you can. He is a well-natured young man, a good schollar, and promising aneough for the business, so that I am perswaded he will answer the designe wery well, and I shall be Cationer for his honesty.

"I am ane intyre stranger to the method of ingadg-

ing your apprenties—as to the term of years or otherwise.

"The young man could have had a master at Scars-Burgh, who would gladly have taken him, but I inclyned rather he should serve you, by reason I know you would use him kindly, besydes the opportunity of having better insight with you than at Scars-Burgh, or any other place thereabouts. Upon receipt of this, I will expect to hear from you; and let me know upon what terms you are to acept of the young gentleman; and I asure you any favour you show him shall be grattfully minded by me, and wherin I can be of any service to you or any of yours here or elsewhere, none shall be more ready whenever opportunity offers. I offer my hearty service to your wiffe, ffamily, and self; and am, Sir, your wery humble servant,

"STRATHNAVER."

XV. GIPSIES; BOTTLES; AND BUGS.

By an Act of Parliament, passed in the year 1609, gipsies, then designated Egyptians, were banished the kingdom of Scotland, and any person harbouring them was liable to fine and imprisonment:—

"I, Alexander Forbes, servitur to my Lord Duck of Lenox, by vertue of my patent, given by the Counsell, to grant remistiouns to all guiltie personns whou have reset the Egyptians, contrarie to the Act of Parlament, gives and grants to Alexander Gordoun off Sidray a frie remistioune and discharge, for the King's pairt and myne, for the said fact; and this sall sufficientlie warand him, from the dait hierof, and the tyme bypast, 1620 yeirs, whensomevir the same sall be produced.

"Given at Elgin, the 6 of May, befoir witnes, subscryved and wreatten with my oune hand, and to be registrat in the buiks of Counsell by me for his suiftie.

"A. Forbes, *with my hand.*

"J. Law, *witnes.*"

On the 23d of August 1688, George, Viscount of Tarbat; John Watson, merchant; Andrew Powrie,

druggist; Alexander Ainslie, merchant; and John Dehen, glass-maker; took a lease of "the new Glasse-hous in North Leith," where for many years they carried on business as bottle-makers :—

"A Noate how the profite appears weekly, upon the makeing of Botles, as followeth, viz. :—

	Sterling.
To supose to have 4 potts in the furnace, each pott to containe 120 chapine botles, which makes 480 to ane furnay, and to have 6 furnayes per weeke, amounts to 2880 botles, to be sold at three pence per peice, is, .	£36 00 00
Charges in makeing said botles :—	
For the metle of 2880 peice of chapine botles,	£03 00 00
To Coalls, ...	03 00 00
To Workmen for makeing 2880 peice of botles, at a half penny per peice, ...	06 00 00
To 2 Sizars, each at five shillings, . . .	00 10 00
To Pounders of metle, ...	00 10 00
To Iron and mending of worke-toulls, . .	00 10 00
To ane man to worke about the house for carring of botles, and pounding of clay, &c., .	00 04 00
To ane to make potts, ...	00 10 00
To Clay, ...	00 05 00
To ane Founder, ...	00 10 00
To ane Clarke, ...	00 10 00
To House-rent, ...	00 10 00
To Pott-drink, ...	00 01 00
To Candle, and for Stro for pakeing glass, .	00 01 00
Charges,	16 01 00
The weekly profite is,	19 19 00
	£36 00 00"

To such of our readers as may be surprised to find Lord Tarbat[1] at the head of a bottle-manufactory, we beg to introduce Lady Murray "at home;" we can, however, give no information about her Ladyship further than is contained in the following advertisement, which appeared in one, at least, of the Edinburgh newspapers, in October 1760 :—

"An Infallible Mixture for effectually destroying that abominable vermin called the Bugs, which was purchased by a gentleman of distinction, for a considerable sum of money, upon his travels in foreign parts, from a Jesuit, which, if rightly applied, will undoubtedly cleanse this country of that noxious vermin, with the whole sedement of them, never more to be in any place where it is used, is to be had by applying to Lady Murray, at her calender-house in Weir's Close in the Cannongate, who will show the performance of the same.

"This secret and infallible mixture is sold at seven shillings, each Scots pint; and if it do not prove effectual, they shall pay nothing for it. No less quantity than a mutchkin is to be sold."

[1] His Lordship was also Lord Register and Lord-Justice General of Scotland; he was afterwards created Earl of Cromartie—a title recently revived in the person of his descendant the Duchess of Sutherland.

XVI.

PUBLIC REVENUE: HOW COLLECTED, 1701.

PREVIOUS to the Union of Scotland with England, the Lords of the Treasury in Scotland generally sold, for a stated term of years, to the party making the highest offer, the right to collect and retain particular items of public revenue. Thus, in 1695, Mr. William Erskine, Governor of Blackness Castle, got a tack[1] of the rents of the Bishopric of Ross for three years; and, in 1697, Sir Archibald Muir of Thornton, Sir John Shaw of Grenock, and John Houston, younger of Houston, were principal taxmen of the Customs and Foreign Excise.

In the year 1701, Archibald Dunbar of Thunderton took a tack of the Inland Excise, and assumed, as partners in the speculation, Mr.[2] Kenneth Mackenzie, second son of the Earl of Cromartie; Sir William Hope, deputy-governor of Edinburgh Castle; William Duff of Dipple, ancestor of the Earl of Fife; Captain Philip Anstruther of New Grange; and Messrs. Gordon, Stewart, and Campbell of Edinburgh. The

[1] In Scotland *a lease* is called *a tack*.

[2] A peer's son, now styled "Honourable," was then designated "Mr." —a practice still retained at Eton College.

partners afterwards sublet the various counties, and the sub-taxmen seem to have been persons of consequence, as we find in the list the names of Lieutenant-Colonel Bruce of Kennet, Patrick Campbell of Barcalden, Alexander Grant of Kirdells (ancestor of Ballindalloch), and Agnes, Countess-Dowager of Linlithgow,—her ladyship holding the subtack of "the Lordship of Zetland and Isles thereof." The system, however, was a bad one, it being, of course, the interest of the sub-taxmen to encourage the people to drink.[1]

The following is copied from the agreement between the Lords of the Treasury and the Morayshire Zacchæus :—

"Att Edinburgh, the day of ffebruary one thousand seven hundreth and one years, it is appointed, contracted, agreid, and finally ended betwixt the pairties ffollowing, to witt, James, Duke of Queensberrie—His Majestie's High Commissioner; Patrick, Earle of Marchmont—Lord High Chancellour; Archbald, Earle of Argyll; William, Earle of Annandale;

[1] In a "List of Brewars' entrees within the town of Elgin" (containing a population of about three thousand inhabitants) "given up in aue Court holden by Robert Innes and James Stewart, two of the Baillies of the said burgh, upon the twenty-second day of June 1697, whose entries commenced from the first of March 1697, to the first of June 1697," the names of eighty persons are given; they had all carried on a brisk trade, but we must award the palm to William Douglas, who in the above three months had brewed "ffour thousand gallons of aile, and ffour hundreth gallons of aquavite."

Adam Cockburn of Ormestoune—Lord Thesaurer Depute; and Mr. Francis Montgommerie of Giffen; Lords Commissioners of His Majestie's Thesaurie of this Kingdome, with advice and consent of the said Lords and others His Majestie's Commissioners of Exchequer, on the one pairt, and Mr. Archbald Dunbarr of Thundertoun on the other pairt, in manner ffollowing, that is to say:—Forasmuch as the said Lords Commissioners of His Majestie's Thesaurie did, by their proclamation of the date the fourth day of ffebruary instant, cause make publick intimation att the Mercatt-Cross of Edinburgh, of a publick roupe to be made upon the seventh day thereof, of the three pennies upon the pint of ale and drinking beer (in lieu of the two merks fformerly upon the boll of malt), and of the excise upon other liquors, annexed to the Crown by Act of Parliament in July jajvic and nyntie-five years (1695), inviting all persones who had a mind to offer for the same, to come and attend that dyett, which being adjourned by the said Lords for some dayes thereafter, their Lordships found the offer of Threttie Thousand Pound Sterline, being Three Hundreth and Three-score Thousand Pound Scotts, made by the said Mr. Archibald Dunbarr, to be the best and most adventagious ffor His Majestie's servise; therefore the said Lords Commissioners of His Majestie's Thesaurie, with advice and consent forsaid, have sett, and be thir presents, ffor the yearly tack-

dutie above and under written, setts, and in tack and assedation letts, to the said Mr. Archbald Dunbarr, his aires and assignies, all and haill the dewtie aftermentioned, viz., the excise of three pennies Scotts upon each pint of ale and beer brouen to be vended and sold, in lieu and place of the two merks fformerly upon the boll of malt; and, sicklyke, the excise of three shilling Scotts upon each pint of aquavitie and strong watters made of malt, brouen and sold within the kingdome, to be payed by the retaillers conform to Act of Parleament; as also the excise of threttie shilling Scotts upon each barrell of mumbeer and other fforreign drinking beer and ale, not exceeding twelve gallons the barrell. And because the excise of six shilling upon the pint of brandy and fforreign aquavitie and strong watters, fformerlie payable by the retailler, is now transported from the retailler to the importer, att the raite of two shilling Scotts per pint of the said brandy, fforeign aquavitie and strong watters to be imported to this Kingdome upon and after the ffirst day of March next to come, conform to the Act of the Session of this present current Parliament, therefore the said Lords Commissioners of His Majestie's Thesaurie, with advice and consent forsaid, furder setts to the said Mr. Archbald Dunbarr the said two shilling per pint on the importer of all brandie, fforeign aquavitie and strong watters imported, or to be imported, to this Kingdome upon and

after the said ffirst day of March next to come, during the tyme of this tack, which is to continue and endure ffor the ffull space of three years next and immedeately after the said taxman his entrie thereto, which is hereby declaired to be, and begin att and upon, the ffirst day of March next to come. Reserving alwayes ffurth and ffrom this present tack all ship's beer putt on board, and drunk at sea, providing that the quantity thereof, and its putting on board, be testified by a certificate under the hand of a person appointed by the said taxman to goe alongst with the said ship's beer and see it putt on board, or at least ane instrument of requisition, containing the said quantitie, taken thereupon, as also by the oath of the breuer who furnished the same; in which case, and not otherwayes, the ship's beer is declaired to be ffree and excepted from this tack. And also declairing that the exceptions and exemptions from paying excise, granted to the Manufacturie of New-milnes and to all other Manufacturies, Privilidged places, Companys or Incorporations, and which are granted by law, are held to be expresly excepted from this tack, as if all were particularly enumerate herein and excepted, and that conforme to the appointment of the forsaid Act of Parliament jajvic and nynety ffive years (1695). And, sicklyke, excepting ffurth and from this present tack the excise of drink consumed within the Garrison of Fort-William, conforme to His Majestie's letters there-

anent, of the daites the twentieth and twenty-seventh dayes of February and Aprill jajvic and nynety-ffive years (1695). And, sicklyke, excepting ffurth and from this present tack the excise of drink consumed in Heriott's Hospitall, not exceeding fifeteen pound sterline yearlie during this tack. Which declairations and exceptions are here made that noe abatement may be hereafter craved upon the accounts forsaid, or upon anie other account whatsomever, except in the case of supervenient laws. And it is hereby declaired that the excise of all liquors brouen within the Kingdome, hereby sett in tack, that shall be vended and sold upon and after the first day of March ensuing inclusive, whether brouen befor that tyme or after, shall be included in this present tack. With ffull power to the said Mr. Archbald Dunbarr, his ffactors, servants, and others in his name, to collect, uplift, and receive the forsaid dewties ffrom all and whatsomever persons lyable in payment thereof as breuers, importers, retaillers, and venders of the fforsaid liquors. And the said Lords Commissioners of His Majestie's Thesuarie, with advice and consent fforsaid, binds and oblidges them, and their successors in office, to maintain, ffortifie, and defend the said taxman and his forsaids in the peaceable collecting, intromitting with, and uplifting of the fforsaid dewties of excise upon all and other liquours above-mentioned; and shall cause pairties of horse and ffoot to be furnished

to them to quarter upon the deficients lyable in payment thereof, and that from time to time as they shall be desired thereto by the said taxman and his fforsaids, conform to the rules prescribed by the fforsaid Acts of Parliament."

XVII. RECEPTION OF A CREDITOR BY A ROSS-SHIRE BARONET, 1712.

We should not like to have been in partnership with Sir William Gordon, of Invergordon, Baronet and Member of Parliament:—

"Att Elgin, the tenth day of October Jajvijc and twenty (1720) years, in presence of James Anderson, Writer in Elgin, Sherriff-depute of the Sherriffdome of Elgin and Forres.

"The said day compeired Ludovick Gordon, merchant in Elgin, in the said shyre, and, being solemnly sworn, maketh oath that he was engadged in the year Jajvijc and twelve (1712), in a company and partinership, for herring-fishing, with Sir William Gordon, then designed Delphollie, now designed Inver-Gordon, and that the said Ludovick Gordon, deponent, haveing been considerably advance upon the account of the said partnership, went in the month of November, or thereby, the said year Javijc and twelve, to the said Sir William his dwelling-house of Inverbreckie, in order to adjust his accompts, and to get payment of the bal-

lance due by the said Sir William to him upon accompt of the said partnership. And depones that, in place of geting payment or clearance of that balance due to him, the deponent, upon the head of the forsaid partnership, which amounted to eight hundered punds Scots of clear debt by him, the said Sir William, to the deponent for the accompt forsaid, he, the said Sir William, in his own house of Inverbreakie, did upon some day in the said month of November, or therby, in the year Jajvije twelve, violently fall, by himself and accomplices, upon him the said Ludovick Gordon, the deponent, and, after tearing of his cloaths and geting him doun to the ground, did by plain south-reiff and robery, bereave him, the deponent, of all his writes and papers about him, the most part whereof concerned the partnership betwixt Sir William Gordon and the deponent, the contents and value whereof did amount to eighteen hundered punds Scots or thereby, for which he, the deponent, never yet got reparation or payment from the said Sir William Gordon, or any in his name, in respect the said Sir William Gordon was a rich and powerfull man, and he, the deponent, not able to prosecute his clame at law to the final conclusion thereof. And lykewise the deponent farder sayeth and depones that he haveing intended ane action before the Supreem Courts of Scotland, could obtain no redress there, by reason the said Sir William was a Member of Parliament at the time of the com-

encement and prosecution of the deponent's action, and during the dependency thereof, which obstructed the deponent's obtaining justice in ane ordinary way against him, the said Sir William, before the courts of Scotland. This is truth as he, the said Ludovick, shall answer to God. Lo. GORDON.

"*Solenitur juravie coram,*[1]

"James Anderson.

Ja : Fraser, *Clk.*"

[1] We have copied this legal dog-Latin exactly as given in the original.

XVIII. POWER OF THE LAIRD OF A BARONY.

UNTIL the year 1747, every Laird whose lands had been erected into a Barony, was empowered to hold Courts for the trial and punishment of offenders within his barony; and a dempster (hangman) was part of the Laird's staff. At Gordonston, however, a gallows was considered an unnecessary expense, as the Loch of Spynie was but a mile from the house. In the case after-quoted, the sentence was carried into execution, "and the said Janet went down evacuating curses on her persecutors:"—

"*August 25th*, 1679.—The Barron-Court of the Right Worshipfull Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonstoune, holden at Drany by John Gordon, his Baillie; suitts called; the Court lawfullie fenced and affirmed as use is.

"The which day Alexander Younge, wiver in the new-toune of Drany, did accuse Janet Grant ffor breaking of his house upon Saboth daye's nicht last by past, being the 22nd instant, ffor stealing and away-taking out of his loome two webs, wherof there was ane of Satinisgobe and ane other of Dornick,

and carying out of his chist to the corn fields, where she did break it and took out twentie rex-dollars, with six ducat-downes, and six fourtein-shillin pieces, with four pound of small monie, with four rex-dollars with ane ducat-downe in ane purss, with two webs of linin, wherof ther was thirteen ellns in ane web and six ellns in ane other, with two ellns and ane half of wakkd pladin. She being taken redd-hand with the Satinisgobe and Dornick webs, with a pairt of the monie, all in her custodie when she was taken, the Judge finds the lybell relivent, and referrs the probatione to the knowledge of ane assyze.

"The persons[1] following, viz., . . . being nominat by the Baillie as asysers, the pannell having no exceptione, and they being solemly sworn, were admitted upon the said pannell her assyse. The said Janet Grant being examined before the assyse, did confes the stealing and the away-taking the Dornick web, with two linin webs, with ane Satinisgobe web, with several clews of linin yairn, but denys the twentie rex-dollars, and the six ducat-downes, and the six fourteins, albeit they fell from her with the rest of the things that she threw ffrom her when she was challenged and persued on the night.

"The assysers above-named being enclosed by themselves, did give in their verdick, sealed, by the hand of John James their Chanceller, by which they found the said Janet guiltie of the crimes for which

[1] Fourteen tenants on the estate.

she was accused. Wherupon the Judge gave sentence that she shall be conveyed from thence back to prison, and there to remaine till the morrow, being the 26th instant, and thence to be carried, betwixt 2 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, to the Loch of Spynie, and there to be drowned under water till she be dead."[1]

The fourth Baronet of Gordonston, son of him under whose reign Janet suffered, converted a vault in his house[2] into a laboratory, where he made che-

[1] In January 1700, the Elgin Magistrates paid "the Marschall twentie shillings Scots for scourging two, lugging two, and burning two thieves"—the two latter punishments being, respectively, deprivation of ears, and branding with a hot iron. To show how theft was punished in more modern times, and also to prove that a condemned felon did not then, as now, excite universal sympathy, we copy the following from a couple of Edinburgh newspapers:—

"Yesterday forenoon (9th May 1758), Agnes Blyth, an old offender, was, persuant to the sentence of the Sheriff, whipped through this city, and afterwards banished the country, for hen-stealing. She had bolted herself into the apartment where she was confined, and it was near an hour before she could be got out to receive this part of her sentence, which was performed upon her, lying on a cart."—*Caledonian Mercury.*

"Thomas Gordon, condemned to be hanged for sheep-stealing, who was respited, is now (27th March 1782) ordered for execution on Monday next, in consequence of an application of the gentlemen and farmers of Berwickshire, setting forth his abandoned character, and showing how unworthy he was of the Royal clemency."—*Ruddiman's Weekly Mercury.*

[2] See Vignette, which represents Gordonston as modernized in 1730, and as it now stands. The windows of the laboratory are the two on the extreme left of the door. The house faces the north, and is situated on low ground, but the rooms on the second and third storeys are excellent, and the drawing-room is a magnificent apartment, with six windows facing the south.

mical experiments during dark nights, and the blaze of light proceeding from the grated windows terrified the country people, who thought that he was in league with the devil. It was generally believed that Sir Robert had no shadow; that, having studied Black Art at Rome, where the devil yearly entered the school and seized the student who got last to the door, young Gordon, when about to be captured, had—by pointing to his shadow, and exclaiming "Take that fellow behind me!"—cheated His Satanic Majesty, and saved his person at the expense of his shadow. Of course this Baronet had a prison in his house; it is thus described in a memorial presented to the Court of Session in 1740, by the friends of Alexander Leslie, a tenant on the estate:—

"Leslie was dragged and carried a prisoner to Gordonston, and put in a prison, which, in place of being a civil prison, is a most nasty dark vault with an iron grate, having neither door, window, nor chimney, and where he lies in a cold and most miserable condition, and is in much danger of his life, for if it were in winter time, he behoved to have a foot or two of stones for keeping him from the water, because the vault is under ground about two feet. . . . The following facts are informed on, which, if necessary, can be proven, viz., Janet Grant, servant to James Forsyth in Crosshill, was, without reason, put into the Pit at Gordonston, who died in short time after

coming out. Margaret Collie, spouse to Alexander Grant, in Muir of Drainy, was incarcerated, without any warrant, for taking the head of a ling out of a midden or dunghill, which the woman thought was good for curing the gout.[1] James Marshall, James Robertson, and William Robertson, three skippers in Covesea, a fisher-town of Sir Robert's, were appointed and kept in the stocks a whole night, without any just cause assigned, and had not the privilege of a house, but were confined, in the open air, in a back close, in a wild and stormy night; and the said James Marshall was thereafter put another time in prison, in a most nasty pit far below ground, where he lay several days, and a short time thereafter died, and, upon his deathbed declared the imprisonment to be the reason of his death, which happened about a fortnight thereafter; and James Marshall, his son, was also imprisoned without any cause, and died also some time thereafter."

Sir Robert not only tyrannized over his dependants, but also harassed his equals. When the wind blew

[1] To the above cure for gout we add an equally agreeable one for a cold; premising that "slettars" are found under stones, and belong to the wood-louse tribe:—"Doctor Clark's directions to Sir Robert Gordon's son. *Edinburgh*, *May* 20, 1739.—Give him, twice a day, the juice of twenty slettars, squeezed through a muslin rag, in whey: to be continued while he has any remains of the cough."

from the east he ploughed up the sand, on a piece of poor land, so as to injure the property of his neighbour, Dunbar of Newton, but, as it blows more frequently from the west, Newton repaid him with interest.

An extract from a lawyer's letter, dated Edinburgh, 18th January 1750, shows how "The Lyon"—Brodie of Brodie,—was attacked:—

"The Lord Lyon is informed that Sir Robert Gordon is building a dovecoat on the muir, closs by his march, next adjacent to the lands of Kinnedar, which he apprehends is in imulation and to the prejudice of his land interest, because Sir Robert's doves in that dovecoat will be fedd by the Lyon's tennants' corns, especially the pease of Kinnedar, in respect Sir Robert's lands do mostly ly far to the north-west, and a great distance from his dovecoat. He is also informed that Sir Robert has already upon his lands of Drainy and Gordonstoun three other separate dovecoats; and this fourth[1] is an iniquous burden levelled at the Lyon. You know the bounds, and I am desired to entreat of you to inform me of the facts."

[1] It was formerly believed that if a person wished his wife to die, he insured success by building a pigeon-house. Lady Gordon was detested by her husband, but notwithstanding this fourth "dovecoat," her Ladyship outlived him many years.

XIX. GARDENS AND PLANTATIONS.

MORAYSHIRE is celebrated for the amenity of its climate; peaches, apricots, etc., ripen on open walls, and pears[1] of every variety come to perfection.

Passing over, as unintelligible to most readers, a contract between Alexander Dunbar, Dean of Moray, and his gardeners, dated 7th November 1566, in which it is agreed that the latter shall "labor the gryt orcheart and gardings of the said Dene's manss within the Channorie of Elgin, indewring the space of thrie yeirs, and sall dycht and sned all the tries, and sall gude theme with sufficient muk. . . . for the which the saids Alexr. and Johne" (the gardeners) "sall have the taill at the end of the orcheart, to be usit be thaim to their utelitie and profeit," we come to more modern times, commencing with a letter, written, most probably, by a clergyman, residing at Murehouse, near Edinburgh:—

[1] On the 19th October 1852, the Horticultural Society of London awarded its first prize to the gardener at Duffus House, near Elgin, for ten varieties of the finest new dessert-pears; subsequently a baking-pear from the same garden was exhibited, it weighed two pounds and eight ounces.

"ffor the LAIRD of GORDONETOUN.

"MUREHOUSE, *ffebruarie* 18, 1684.

"SIR,—In complyance to yours, I have caused deliver to your servant, a dozen or foureteen grafts of the Great-Red-Straik aple, foure of the Great-French-Rubie aple, some of the Gray Pepin, some of the Great-Summer-Bon-Chrestien peare, some of the Great-French-Bergamot peare, some of the Longueville peare, and severall other of the best peares and aples I have, whose names I cannot tell, my gardner not being at home, but they are all excellent fruits. Those that I know, are bound up together with their naimes, and carefully wrapt up in ane hay rope, which I heartily wish may hold, and have good successe with you, as they dò here; so I remayne, Sir, your humble servant,

"MR. J. HUNTER."

"Account of Garden Seeds, Garden Toolls, &c., furnished to Sir Robert Gordon by William Miller,[1] December 18th, 1718 :—

	STERLING.
2 ounces Silver-Firr seed, ...	£00 04 00
4 ounces Great-Pine, ...	00 02 00
4 ounces Cypruss, ...	00 04 00

[1] Mr. Miller rented the royal gardens at Holyrood; in the year 1729 he supplied Dunbar of Thunderton with "two hundred and forty fruit trees of the finest kinds," which, however, he had procured from London.

4 ounces Pynaster,	£00 04 00
2 ounces Pitch-Firr,	00 03 00
8 pound Lym-Tree seed, wherof 4 pound and 10 ounces but yet furnished,	01 12 00
8 pound Yew-Tree seed,	00 16 00
6 pound Scots-Firr,	04 00 00
14 pound French-Furzz,	01 15 00
1000 Hors-Chesnutts,	00 15 00
1 bushell of Walnutts,	03 00 00
1 bushell of Chesnutts,	01 13 04
8 pecks Holley-Berries,	01 04 00
1 peck Filberd-Nutts,	00 05 00
2½ pound Hornbeam seed,	00 05 00
½ pound Apple seed, not yet sent,	00 04 00
½ pound Pear seed, not yet furnished,	00 08 00
4 bushels of Ackorns,	02 00 00
1 parcell of Ellem seed, cost me	00 06 00
Three Dozen of largest Garden-Spades,	08 02 00
Three Syths,	00 07 00
One longest Garden-Line,	00 02 00
Peas (8 varieties). Beans (three do.) Radish (2 do.) Onion (2 do.) Turnip (2 do.) Cabage (4 do.) Letuce (3 do.) Leek. Parsneep. Carrot. Colliflower. Sweet-Majorum. Beet-rave. Sellery. Pompion and Gourd. Cress. Coucumer of severall sorts. Melon. Purpie. Charvill. Smooth Spinage. Shellot. Persly. Clairie. Sumer and Winter Savory. Thym, and Beet Chord.	*These, and their prices, are separately entered in the original.*
	£30 09 00"

We think that the gardener got a free house, but had to provide himself with food out of his wages, which amounted to twelve pounds and ten shillings, sterling :—

"I, James Ramsay, gardiner at Gordonstoun, hereby grant me to have received from George Kay, ffactor to Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonstoun, the sume of One Hundred and Fiftie Pounds, Scots money, and that as my fee and wages due to me 'twixt Martimas seventeen hundred and twentie three, to Martimas seventeen hundred and twentie four years, whereof I discharge the said Sir Robert Gordon and all others concerned. In witness whereof, I have subscrived thir presents at Dranie, on the first day of March seventeen hundred and twentie four years.

"JAMES RAMSAY."

Mr. Miller evidently belonged to the Society of Friends :—

"To SIR ROBERT GORDON, of Gordonston, Barronett,
Shire of Murray.

"ABBEY OF EDINBURGH, 24*th* 8*ber* 1739.

"SIR ROBERT,—My last to thee was of the 2nd February, by post, to which referrs; since, non from

thee, although I had cause to expect by thy letter to me, of the 2nd January 1738, that thou was to remitt payment of thy account in November or December that year; but never being favoured with any return from thee since said time, makes me think it has escaped thy memory, or that thou has not received mine of said date, wherein I hope the scruples thou had to David Anderson, anent my account, was removed. And, as accounts when they ly long over, ar apt to be forgot, must request the favour thou will write to David Anderson, thy factor, to pay me; and if it does not suit thy conveniency to make a remittance soon, may please atest the account and send me, to be payed twelve months hence, or longer if thou thinks fitt, becaws I would be loath to desire thee to incommode thyself on my account, not being forgetful of thy pointed payments made me formerly, although I am no profiter of this current account, wer it even payd at this time, being, of the four years due, only fiveteen pounds, thirteen shillings, and five pence sterling therof for garden seeds, the rest of the artickles therein being garden-toolls, grass-seeds, and tree-seeds, which comes to sixty pounds three shillings and seven pence sterling, which I get very litle profit by, although payd at furnishing as I charge them to thee; neither did I ever demand the vallue of one farthing more from thee, for any artickle sent, than others payd me ready money. In expectation, at

receipt of this, thou will drop me two lines signifying complyance with my above, just and equitable, demands, I will take to be a great favour done thy obliged friend,

"WILLIAM MILLAR, Junr.

The following letter is from the celebrated Lord Kames:—

"GEORGE CUMMING, Esqr.
of Altyre, Forres.

"EDINBURGH, 16*th December* 1763.

"MY DEAR SIR,—Ever since I came to Town, I have scarse had a spare moment for writing my thoughts upon the papers you put into my hand at Moy; nor was I much concerned, for you have arrived at the golden age of patience, and you have a quality original, which required not age to ripen, and which is, that being a trusty friend yourself, you will not be apt to suspect your friends of unkindness or neglect.

"With respect to the projected regulations for preventing the destroying of trees by muir-burn, the very first, of confining muir-burn to the months of December, January, and February, is ill-contrived. To discharge muir-burn altogether, would be only rigid and severe, but to allow it in appearance and discharge it

in reality, is both severe and ridiculous. It is not once in fifty years that the ground is dry enough to admit muirs to be burned in these winter months; it seldom can be got done in March, which forces people to delay often till the month of May. At the same time, there is an easy method for protecting trees from muir-burn, and that is, to destroy the heather for twenty or thirty yards round the wood, by plowing or otherways; and if lime or dung can be obtained, to make grass grow, all trouble or difficulty is at an end. We have already more than enough of penal statutes in this kingdom.

"In the other paper, for preserving of growing timber, the corrections proposed, of the laws in being, are not worthy of a new statute, because they are within the power of the Court of Session. The only new article is that which ordaines the Judges to finish the process within a calander month. The man who contrived this article must be a novice in law. Such regulations have been often attempted in different countries, but ignorantly and without success. For no man can say, when a process commences, when it ought to end; for no man can forsee what proofs, what expiscations, may be necessary in order to do justice. In short, this is a Gothic thought, resembling much that of Procrustes the giant, who, instead of accommodating his bed to his guests, shortened or lengthened his guests to his bed; instead of making time yield to

business, it is making business, however extensive, yield to time.

"My good friend, Squire Cumming, I shall be in the midst of your house, the first time I go to Inverness; in the meantime I am ffaithfully yours.

"HENRY HOME."

XX. HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES AND SERVANTS' WAGES.

CONSIDERING the extent of the Gordonston Estate, and the size of the House (see Vignette), the Baronet seems to have kept his wife, children, and servants on rather a short allowance :—

"Sir Robert Gordon's allowance for his Lady and ffamily, from December 14th 1740 to December 14th 1741 : —

	Sterling. £	s.	d.
Imprimis, to 36 bolls Malt, at 8 shillings and 4 pence per boll,	15	0	0
Item, to 36 bolls Meal, at same price,	15	0	0
Item, to 10 bolls Wheat, at 13 shillings and 4 pence per boll,	6	13	4
Item, to 12 Beeves, at £1 per piece,	12	0	0
Item, to Meal to servants without doors,	9	7	6
Item, to Servants Wages within and without doors,	41	5	0
Item, to Cash instantly delivered,	50	6	2
Item, to be paid monthly, £4, '4,	50	8	0
	£200	0	0"

"Servants Wages, 1741 :—

	Sterling. £	s.	d.
Imprimis, to two Gentlewomen,	10	0	0
Item, to five Maids,	5	6	8
Item, to two Cooks,	5	0	0
Item, to two Porters,	3	0	0
Item, to Robin's Servant,	1	0	0
Item, to the Groom,	5	5	0
Item, to the Neghbour,	3	6	8
Item, to three Out-Servants,	7	0	0
Item, to two Herds,[1]	1	6	8
	£41	5	0"

The two gentlewomen mentioned above, probably the housekeeper and the lady's-maid, had been engaged in the south, and had ridden on horseback from Kinghorn, in Fifeshire, to Gordonston, but which of them sat on the pillion behind Mr. Kenety we cannot tell : —

"Gordonstone, *December 2nd*, 1736.

"I, Henry Kenety, in Kingorne, grants me to have receivid from Sir Robert Gordon, twenty-seven pund fifteen shiling Scots, as two hors hire, whereof one

[1] There is an interesting paper relating to the wages of farm-servants, at pp. 97, 98 of former series; its value, however, would have been greater had it informed us in what money the wages were paid, if it represented the yearly total, and if board and lodging were included; the original document is silent on all these particulars, but we think that the money was Scots, that the yearly total was meant, and that board and lodging were included.

double, betwixt Kingorne and Gordonstone, for carrying North two Gentlewomen to the Lady Gordon.

"HENDRIE KENETY."

Alarming rise in wages :—

"To Mrs. PRISCILLA VAUHAN, Housekeeper.

"LONDON, 15*th May* 1758.

"I desire you will go by the first ship, to the Murray firth, and from the part you land at, to my house at Gordonstoun, where my stuart will order what is necessary for you. The wedges, including tea and suggar, &c., is to be seven pounds a year, or at that rate, from the time you arrive at my house.—I am, &c.

"ROBERT GORDON."

"I, Peter Rattery, Cook to Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonstown, Bart., grants me to have receaved from John Gordon, Writer in Elgin, factor to the said Sir Robert, the sum of Three Pound, Thirteen Shillings, and Sixpence, Sterling money, as the agreed wages payable by the said Sir Robert Gordon to me, for serving him as Cook from Whitsunday to Martimass Javijc fifty nine yeais (1759).

"PETER RATTERY."

XXI. RAISING MEN FOR THE ARMY.

In former days, when a gentleman got a commission in the army, he had to raise a certain number of men; if he failed to do so, the commission was cancelled. An application to the celebrated Simon, Lord Lovat, to assist a kinsman in his recruiting, elicited the following characteristic reply from his Lordship, who was then in the seventy-eighth year of his age, and who, in little more than two years thereafter, was executed on Tower-hill, for participation in the Rebellion of 1745-6 :—

"To the Honourable Captain George Cumming,
Son to the Laird of Altyr, &c. Att the House of Altyr.

"Beaufort, 1*st March* 1745.

"My dear Cusin,—I received with vast pleasure the honor of your very kind, polite, and oblidgeing wellwritt letter, for which I give you my most sincere humble thanks. I was much rejoyced when I heard that you was preferred to a good post in the army, and I wish from my heart and soul that you may be a Generall before you die. It gives me exceeding great pleasure to know that you and my dear cusin-

the Laird of Altyr—your worthy father, and all your family are in perfect health; I wish the continuance of it as I do my own, and I beg leave to asure you, and them, of my most affectionate respects and best wishes, in which my daughter, Sibie,[1] joins me, who is the only child I have with me; and all the rest of my children, who are absent, are in perfect health.

"Now, my dear Cusin, to come to the essential request of your letter, I am extreamly sorry and troubled that it is not in my power to serve you as I would wish; some years ago it would be no strait upon me to give you a dozen of such men as you ask, but, if it was to save my life, I could not pitch this day upon half a dozen, among all my common people, of the size that you desire, for there is no country in Scotland so drained of men of size as mine is. The reason is plain, for when I was cashired,[2] by ane order that was without example in Europe—that ane old officer should be broke without the least fault being attribute to him, and then ordered to give in my Company of a hundred men of my own (to strangers), who had only engaged with me for the love they had to me as their Chief, and, besides those that I was oblidged to give in to make up my Lord Crawford's regiment, now Semple's, there were ffifty more Frasers

[1] Sybella, his Lordship's second daughter.

[2] Having reasons to suspect his loyalty, Government had considered it prudent to deprive his Lordship of his command, and to draft his men into other regiments.

in the other few Companys, so that in Semple's regiment, when they went out of Scotland, they had two hundred Frasers in it, and out of the estate of Lovat, and all of them pretty hansome fellows about the size that you want, and fifty of them above it, so that there is no such thing to be now seen as a man of the size that you desire, among my common people, except it be a few old married men.

"However, dear Cusin, I will do all in my power to serve you; I will give orders to all my Baillies and Chamberlains on this side of Lochness, and likewise to my Baillies and Chamberlains in Stratherick and Abertarff, to speak to all the gentlemen's children, of the size you want, and let them know the hansome offers you make; and it will oblidge me mightily if they engage with you, and I will give them ane obligation, under my hand, to give them any tack of land that they are capable of when they come home with their discharge. This, dear Cusin, is all I can do for you if you was my own brother.

"When any of my young people grows up to be of the size you want, if you have any use for them, you shall have them before any Officer that comes, for Recruits, to the North of Scotland; and you shall always find me, with a very sincere esteem and respect, dear Captain, your most affectionate Cusin, and most obedient and most faithfull humble servant,

"LOVAT."

"*P.S.*—I beleive you will not be ill pleased to know that I have kept my health better since the beginning of Jully last, than I have done these thirty years past, and notwithstanding of this extraordinary severe storm, that I do realy believe that the like of it was never seen in this country. I take the cold bath every day, and, since I cannot go abroad, use the exercise of dancing every day with my daughter and others that are here with me, and I can dance as cleverly as I have done these ten years past."

The Regiment in which Captain Dunbar obtained a commission, was commanded by Colonel Staats Long Morris, husband of Catherine, Duchess Dowager of Gordon, and in it her Grace's sons—Alexander, fourth Duke of Gordon, and his two brothers—held commissions, respectively, as Captain, Lieutenant, and Ensign.

To his Chamberlain in the county of Inverness, the Earl of Moray wrote as follows :—

"DUNIBRISTLE, 27*th December* 1759.

"MR. MACKINTOSH,—As Mr. Dunbar of Duffus his son has gott a Commission in Collonel Morris's Batallion, he will immeadeatly sett about recruiting, and altho I am informed that Drumaglash[1] has got a

[1] William Magillivray of Dunmaglass. His elder brother, Alexander, had been killed at the battle of Culloden, where he commanded the Mackintoshes.

Company in said Batallion, I do call upon you, and all those under your care who pretend freindship and regaird for me and my family, to be aiding and assisting to Captain Dunbar; and if any other recruiting party or officer should interfeer with him, I desire that my weight may be throwen into Captain Dunbar's scale, where the terms are equall; and if I hear (and hear I will) that, after you receive this letter, any recruits are gone out of the Lordship of Petty, and not into Captain Dunbar's Company, I will not easily forgett nor forgive it to those who have had the smallest hand in contributing towards it.

"You may let my vassals know that they cannot come to me with a stronger claim to my freindship than by giving me a proof that they deserve it, by giving substantial assistance to Captain Dunbar in his recruiting service, notwithstanding the pretext of Drumaglash his company.

"Be active in this affair, as you wish to oblige your assured freind,

"MORAY."

We have seen by the above that commissions in the army were not obtained without great influence and considerable exertion; to show how it fared with a young officer, a few years after he had got his much-coveted commission, we give an extract from

a letter, dated Madras, 4th March 1807, and addressed to Sir Archibald Dunbar of Northfield. It relates to the Baronet's only brother, Lieutenant John Dunbar, 78th Highlanders, a prisoner of war, on parole :—

"Your poor brother is still unexchanged, and residing for cheapness at Pondichery, rather in distressed circumstances, his little pay being hardly equal to procure him the first necessaries of life, owing to the unusual dearness of everything, occasioned by an impending famine. When he first arrived at Madras he came immediately to see me, but as we had not met for many years, and he was greatly disfigured and badly clothed (having walked and rode some hundred miles in the scorching sun), it was some time before I could recognise my old schoolfellow. The French, it seems, had taken everything from him, or rather had suffered him and several other officers to be plundered in a most shameful manner, so that, poor fellow! he had nothing remaining but a scanty bundle of tattered cloathes, his feet blistered, and partly uncovered from the badness of his only pair of half boots,—and without any hat."

XXII. ELGIN BURGH POLITICS; ABDUCTION OF MAGISTRATES AND IRRUPTION OF HIGHLANDERS.

THE events narrated in Mr. Young's letter are comparatively modern, but they exhibit a state of social life such as can never be again witnessed :—

"Captain DUNBAR DUNBAR, of Sea Park, Forres.

"ELGIN, *8th January* 1866.

"MY DEAR SIR,—After the Union of Scotland with England, and until the passing of the Reform Bill, Elgin was associated with the Burghs of Banff, Inverury, Kintore, and Cullen in returning a Member to the British Parliament; the Town-Council of each burgh choosing a delegate to represent the community; and each town, in rotation, being the returning-burgh, where the delegates met, and where the election of the Member was made. Banff early fell under the power of the Earl of Fife, Cullen under the Earl of Findlater, and Inverury and Kintore under the Earl of Kintore, but Elgin was peculiarly

situated, and became at different periods a prey to Gordon, Duff, Grant, or Findlater influence. It thus therefore often turned the election, and was, in consequence, of considerable importance to contending factions.

"After a Nobleman or Gentleman had got the command of a burgh, it was a matter of some difficulty to retain it; the Magistrates and Councillors had to get constant favours—to be feasted and petted; a slight, or supposed injury, to a Magistrate, or even to a Deacon,[1] might result in the loss of the burgh, and therefore it was necessary to have some confidential gentleman in every town to attend to the interest of the Patron, and to see that the civic rulers were kept in good humour. By some supposed slight or insult Lord Kintore lost the burgh of Inverury, which thereafter placed itself at Lord Fife's disposal. The Earl of Fife had thus the command of Banff and Inverury, Lord Kintore had Kintore, and Lord Findlater had Cullen; to secure Elgin was, therefore, the grand aim of each of these noblemen. By the management of friends, Elgin had been for a long time at the disposal of the Earl of Findlater, so his Lordship and the Earl of Kintore having the command of three burghs, had returned the Members alternately; thus, in the year 1812, Lord Kintore returned his friend, Patrick Milne of Crimonmogate, as Member; and in 1818, the Earl

[1] The Chairman of an Incorporated Trade.

of Seafield (who had succeeded to the Findlater estates) returned Mr. Robert Grant.[1]

On 29th January 1820, King George III. died. This of course caused a General Election, and writs were immediately issued for a new Parliament. Had Mr. Grant continued to stand, he might probably have been elected without much opposition, as he was a man of repute; but having heard that General Duff, brother of the Earl of Fife, was to be brought forward against him, he declined a contest, and accepted a quiet English burgh, provided for him by Government, so Lord Kintore then brought forward Archibald Farquharson of Finzean, a person little known in the district, and quite unfit for the discharge of Parliamentary duties. At this juncture Banff and Inverury were in the Fife interest, and Cullen and Kintore in that of Lords Seafield and Kintore, but Elgin was doubtful, and consequently the point of contention.

"In the absence of the Provost, who was then in Edinburgh, the Sheriff's precept was issued to Bailie Francis Taylor, acting Chief Magistrate, ordering him to call a meeting of Council on Wednesday the 15th of March, to elect a delegate, as their representative at Cullen, the returning burgh, to vote for a member of Parliament.

[1] Afterwards Sir Robert Grant, Governor of Bombay. His elder brother was the late Lord Glenelg.

"General Duff started against Mr. Farquharson; the Earl of Fife came to Elgin and waited on the Magistrates and Councillors with such success that he prevailed on seven out of the seventeen, to declare for his brother the General; the Provost being absent and Bailie Innes[1] professing strict neutrality, the Council was thus divided by eight to seven, so that the election might probably have been determined in favour of Mr. Farquharson, by a single vote, had not Lord Fife, by presenting dresses to the ladies, giving gowns, shawls, bonnets, rings, etc., to the wives and daughters of the tradesmen, scattering money amongst the people, and acting courteously to all, carried everything in the way of general popularity before him. Matters continued on this footing for about a fortnight, and the feelings of both parties in the town became excited to the utmost degree—the Grants[2] were under the greatest anxiety lest the burgh, and with it the election, should be lost, and the Duffs were proportionally elated.

"Attempts were made by the Grant party, but without success, to kidnap Messrs. Lewis Anderson and James Culbard, two of Lord Fife's supporters. This roused the Duffs, who, on the morning of Saturday

[1] The worthy Bailie was universally known as "Phœnix," he being agent for the Insurance Company bearing that name.

[2] The supporters of the Seafield and Fife interests were respectively known as Grants and Duffs.

11th March, seized Mr. Robert Dick (a Merchant-Councillor, in the Grant interest), at his own shop-door, carried him to Mackenzie's Inn in the neighbourhood, put him into a post-chaise which was in waiting, and in which, guarded by a couple of men, he was driven to Burghead, and from thence, in a boat which was in readiness to receive him, transported to the opposite coast, and landed on the pier at Dunrobin. There being several Morayshire gentlemen in Sutherland, Mr. Dick was immediately set at liberty, and he was asked if he wished to return home, but, being hospitably entertained, he said that the two lads had been very kind to him and that he would not part from them; so, after a few days' enjoyment, the three started leisurely, by land, for Elgin, where they arrived too late for the election of a delegate.

"On the same Saturday, Bailie Francis Taylor, acting Chief Magistrate, when taking his morning walk, was captured at his garden-gate by a party of the Duffs, carried to Bishopmill,[1] put into a post-chaise, and conveyed to the seaside, where an open boat was procured to transport him and two of his captors to Sutherland, but a storm and head wind having got up, they were seventeen hours on the passage, and, after nearly losing their lives, they with the utmost difficulty got into the harbour of Brora. The Bailie received every attention in Sutherland,

[1] A village in the vicinity.

made his way home very slowly, by land, and arrived at Elgin too late for the election of a delegate.

"In consequence of these transactions, Elgin got into a most excited state, and, on the morning of Sunday 12th March, Lady Ann Grant[1] despatched an express to Strathspey for a body of Highlanders to guard Grant Lodge (where her mentally-afflicted brother, Lord Seafield, resided under her care), or to act as circumstances might require. The express reached Cromdale as the congregation were leaving the church, and about three hundred men immediately started for Elgin; expresses being sent for others to follow. The first band reached Aberlour at a late hour in the night, when a respectable tenant of Lord Fife's, suspecting the cause, or being alarmed at such a body of men passing down Speyside, despatched his son on horseback to alarm Lord Fife and the people of Elgin. The horseman, with some difficulty, passed the Grant retainers, reached Elgin long before them, and immediately waited on the principal gentlemen friendly to the Duff cause, who sent out drums, bugles, etc., to arouse the town's-people. All armed themselves with staves, bludgeons, rusty swords, and other weapons; and the Magistrates and Councillors favourable to the Fife interest were lodged in Mackenzie's

[1] This noble Lady was, from her talents and position, the strength of the Grant party in Elgin; and in Strathspey—the country of the Grant Clan—her Ladyship was regarded as The Chief.

Inn, carefully guarded by men, who were relieved at intervals.

"The first band of the Highlanders arrived near Elgin about 3 o'clock in the morning, and were drawn up there by their leader, who, finding that the inhabitants were in a state of preparation, did not enter the town, but marched direct to Grant Lodge. In the course of the morning other divisions arrived; and I recollect perfectly, when a boy (going to school about 7 o'clock that morning), seeing large bands arriving and the town's-people looking on. Provisions were prepared on the lawn at Grant Lodge for the party; and it must have been a serious business to feed seven hundred men who had made so long a journey.

"The alarm in the town continued very great; all the able-bodied inhabitants were kept ready for whatever might occur. In the course of the forenoon Lord Fife's tenantry in the adjacent districts, and also men from the sea-coast, came into Elgin armed with sticks, so that probably there were fifteen hundred men ready for battle.

"It was almost certain that, should the Highlanders remain till night, and get drink, which was going freely in all quarters, a battle must ensue; so the Sheriff of the county, accompanied by the parochial clergy of the town, waited on Lady Ann Grant, and urged on her the absolute necessity of ordering the

Highlanders to decamp at once. Her Ladyship, after being assured by the Sheriff that special constables would be sworn in to preserve the peace on both sides, consented; the Highlanders were despatched home, in the afternoon, by a different route from that by which they came; and special constables patrolled the town.

"During the evening, however, suspicions arose that the Highlanders had not returned to Strathspey, but were lurking in the neighbouring woods, ready to enter the town at night, in order to carry off Lord Fife's supporters in the Council; the inhabitants, therefore, resolved to watch all night and to illuminate the town, so that no stranger could enter without being seen; an extensive illumination took place, and many of the Grant party were obliged to light up their houses in order to prevent their windows being broken. The excitement continued during the two following days—Tuesday and Wednesday, the latter was that appointed for electing a delegate, and on it (neither the Grant Councillor nor Bailie having as yet returned from Sutherland) the Fife party met alone, and nominated a delegate to represent them at Cullen; this of course was not a legal proceeding, there being only a minority of the Magistrates and Councillors, and no Town Clerk, present. After Bailie Taylor's return from Sutherland, the Town Council met on the 25th March, when the Bailie

stated that, in consequence of his having been carried off, he had been unable to obey the Sheriff's precept ordering him to call the Council together to elect a delegate; the Council met again on the 28th of the same month, after which nothing is recorded for a considerable time, so the meetings in the interval must have been party ones.

"During the absence of Robert Dick in Sutherland, his wife and daughter had been brought over to the Fife interest, and the Councillor on his return was easily persuaded to follow their example; he reconciled himself to this on the ground that although he had promised to vote for Mr. Robert Grant, he had not promised to support Mr. Farquharson, and that therefore he was free to vote for General Duff. The Council was consequently equally divided, 'Phœnix' standing neutral, but the Provost, who had returned from Edinburgh, and who was a supporter of the Grant interest, had both a deliberative and a casting vote, so after sundry protests and legal discussions, it was found that Mr. Farquharson was duly elected by the Provost's casting vote. Parliament met on 21st April, and Mr. Farquharson's title was sustained; it was a very stormy session, Queen Caroline's trial, and other important matters, having taken place, but Government had a good majority, and the Parliament lasted six years.

"The cases of the abduction of the Bailie and of the

Councillor were reported to the Lord Advocate, but only that of the former was proceeded with. Four Elgin men were tried at the Circuit Court of Justiciary, held at Inverness in September 1820; they were defended by Mr. John Peter Grant of Rothiemurcus, Mr. John Archibald Murray, and Mr. James Ivory; a flaw in the indictment, or some such thing, was discovered; the prosecution broke down; and a great procession went out to meet the parties on their return to Elgin, where they were feasted by the supporters of the Fife cause.

"The excitement in Elgin continued during the whole season. On the 26th September following, the Magistrates met, according to annual custom, to elect the new Council, when ('Phœnix' having been induced to declare in favour of the Duff interest, and thus to give it a majority) a Council entirely subservient to the Earl of Fife was chosen, and his brother, General Duff, was, on the first opportunity, elected Member for the Elgin District of Burghs.

"Elections in the present day pass over in a different way; parties dispute for a few days, give their votes, and soon become good friends again. Not so, however, with the Burgh Election of 1820; it was a most violent business; families were divided, the nearest relatives did not speak to each other, and Elgin was agitated to a degree that now seems incom-

prehensible. These differences extended over a long period of time, and two distinct factions were formed, which, even after the lapse of forty years, are not extinguished. It is right to add that the noble families of Seafield and Fife had, and still have, a grateful remembrance of the services of their supporters during that memorable election.—I remain, my dear Sir, yours very truly,

"ROB. YOUNG."

APPENDIX I.

THE following extracts ought to have appeared immediately after page 52 :—

"The Compt of Mr. Robert Farquhar, Comissar-Depute.[1]

To Livetennent-Generall Bailzie, for the use of the Armie in the North, then under his comand, in Junij 1645 yeirs, . . .	Scots. £7533	6	8
Payit for purss and hors-hyre careying the said money from Aberdein to the armie, . .	3	12	0
Sent at the said tyme, at comand of the said Livetennent-Generall, the Executioner of Aberdein to the armie, and payit for ane hors-hyre to him, becaus he was leam of ane leg, ...	1	10	0
Item, at his comand, payit for sex hundreth pound wecht of pulder, ...	480	0	0
And thairefter, for two hundreth wecht[2] of pulder delyverit to the said Livetennent-Generall, at fyvetein shillings the pound, .	150	0	0
Item, sent to his armie, at his comand, sex scoir of lances, at threttein shillings and four pennies ilk lance, ...	80	0	0

[1] His "allowance ffor his service and his servands" was £20 sterling per mensem.

[2] Calculated at 100 lb., not 112 lb., the cwt.

Item, for careying from Aberdein to the armie the said pulder and lances, . . .	£6	10	0
Item, at comand of the said Livetennent-Generall, causit mack threttie yrone picks and twelff crawyrns,[1] all weying twentie-four stone wecht, at thrie pounds ilk stone, .	72	0	0
Item, payit for schafting of the saids picks and for timber to be schafts to them, .	6	0	0
Item, in Januar 1645 yeirs, be order of my Lord Balmirrinocht, sent ane Messinger from Aberdein, throughe all the Burrowes be-north Aberdein, to mack intimatione of the Acts of the excyse, and payit him for his pains, ...	58	0	0
Item, furnissit to the regiments of Lowdone, Cochran, and Cassillis, thrie hundreth thrie scoir fyftein bolls, and ane firlot, of meill, conforme to the recepts theroff, in Apryle 1645 yeirs, for which the Compter payit, at Witsunday 1645 yeirs, aught marks ffor ilk boll, ...	2001	6	8"

This letter, written by Sir Robert Gordon, ought also to have appeared :—

" To my verie honorable and noble Lord,
THE MARQUIS OFF HUNTLEY, &c.—These :

" GORDONSTOUN, *the* 5 *of November* 1646.

" MY NOBLE LORD,—My stay at Aberdein was longer than I did expect, being hindered by a fourtein days' seiknes.

[1] Crowbars.

I am now (I thanke God) returned home, though tender and crasie, and unable any more for winter journays. I called at the Boig[1] on my returne, but, in regard of your Lordship's absence, I did not stay. I did sie no man at Aberdein,[2] but kept me within doores. I was neither sommoned nor enquyred after, to my knowledge, only I spoke with the Earle of Southerland, and Provost Farquhar, at whose house I lay.

"I have heirwith sent to your Lordship a letter, derected be Generall-Major Monro, out of Irland, the 26 of September last, to the Earle of Southerland, which sheweth the Irishe have declared themselfs for the Pope and the King of Spain, having resisted His Majestie's authority of Great Brytaine. I can hardlie beleive it, though I knowe this which I have sent you, to be the Generall-Major his hand, and that he should knowe the treuth of bussines ther; yet the other paper from London, the 17 of the last month, shewes so much also. I can say but this—If it be true, they have proved verie ungratefull to our King. The note from London shewes of the Marquis of Ormond's complyance with the Parliament of England, upon the Decleration of the Irishe.

"I can learne no certaintie from the South, but that our Scots armie doth stay the winter in England. The Londoners will advance no gilt, till the Presbiteriall governement be settled and the King established. Some more regiments ar comming hither into the North. Wee hear nothing yet from the Parliament at Edinburgh; how soone any thing commes to my hands, your Lordship shall be advertised. Dyvers of our Murray men were decerned be the Comittee

[1] Now called Gordon Castle.

[2] By a letter dated 27th May 1646, we find that Lord Huntly had seized at Aberdeen "two grayit ships bot laitlie com hom from Flanders, loadit with all sorts of comodities," by which he did the Covenanters "two hundreth thousand merks of skaith."

of Estates at Aberdein, to len money to the Estates, for the which they shall have the publick faith for repayment; among others, Pluscarty[1] was decerned to len thrie thousand merks. The surname of Mackenzie (as I hear) were decerned to len about fyftie thousand merks.[2] This is all I have to say at this tyme, but that I shall ever remain your Lordship's humble servant and löving cousing,

"ROBERT GORDONE."

[1] Thomas Mackenzie of Pluscardine, brother of the Earl of Seaforth.

[2] Notwithstanding what is said about the Mackenzies at page 49, a document dated 8th May 1648, proves that they were eventually compelled to obey.

APPENDIX II.

In a footnote at page 58, we mentioned that Sir Donald Mackay (afterwards Lord Reay) had sent three thousand men from Scotland, in October 1626, to assist Count Mansfield in Germany. Sir Donald, however, remained at home until the beginning of the following year, when, accompanied by the Master of Crawford, Mr. Robert Farquhar, and others, he sailed from Leith, to take the command of his regiment; with which he eventually entered the service of Gustavus Adolphus, and gained considerable renown.

The following are extracts from one of Farquhar's papers:—

"Compt of money debursit in Scotland and Holland for Colonell Macky, begining the ij of Januar, to the 22 of Marche 1627.

Debursit, first, off Scotts money as followes:—

Payit for breid to the sea with us, in Leith,	1	16	0
Payit for tuo muttone boolks, . . .	6	13	4
For ane rubbor of Frensche wyne, . .	21	12	0
For fyve pynts of seck, ...	4	10	0
Payit the bott that put us aboord of the schip, the 18 day off Januar, ...	6	13	4
Payit Captan Blum, the 22 off Januar, our fraucht, ...	206	13	4

Gevin his steirsman, ...	4	7	6
Gevin the schipe's cook and boys, . .	1	10	0
Gevin at the port of Breill, ...	0	6	0
Gevin in the Hag to Captan Pumphrey, first a pistoll, ...	8	15	0
Mair to him and his men, in the Hag, 29 off Januar, ...	15	0	0
Mair to your Lordship's selff, which ye gave him in Roterdam, ...	17	10	0
Mair to Livetennant Barbar, to by sarks,[1] .	8	15	0
To the Prince off Orange his drummers, . .	6	13	4
To the King off Bohemia his halberdiers, .	6	13	4
Payit for the great maill,[2] two peices, . .	26	13	4
To his Lordship, to by books in Amsterdam, .	2	18	0

* * * * *

Suma is 727 lbs. Scotts money.

Debursit off Flemishe money :—

Payit his Lordship and all the companie ther dennirs at Mestant-Sluis, . . .	7	0	0
To ane man who convoyit us to our lugeing and helpit in with the graith to the lugeing,	0	4	0
Payit four cannes off beir to the futmen, at ther entrie to the Hag, ...	0	10	0
Payit ther suppers that nicht, eight men, .	1	13	0
To the barber who dressit the Colonell, . .	0	12	0
Payit for ane pok to his Lordship's hat, . .	1	2	0
Therefter a browband to it, ...	0	4	0
A sword in the Hag, ...	28	0	0
Drink-silver, ...	0	7	0
To Chisholme, the poor man in the Hag, .	0	12	0
To others poor, at dyvers tyms, . . .	0	18	0
Aquavitie in the Hag, ...	0	3	0

[1] Shirts. [2] Probably, a trunk.

And for two pynts, put in the sellar, . .	3	0	0
Payit for mending the lock off the wynseller, .	0	4	0
Payit in the Hag for clothes-washing, . . .	2	18	0
Payit in the Hag for the eight futmen, the 24 and 25 days, ...	6	12	0
Payit vagon-hyr for myselff and Jon Barber, going to Delff, ...	0	12	0
Tysday, his Lordship's dennir thair, . .	6	2	0
Chalmer-meill[1] thair, ane weik, . . .	10	0	0
For Candell, ...	1	10	0
To the servands thair, ...	1	16	0
Gevin to the poor when your Lordship went in vagon, ...	0	12	0
Payit in Delff, seing the churches thair, .	0	10	0
Payit lasting Robert Forbes buittes, and to your Lordship, to giff the poor in Delff kirk, on Thursday, ...	0	6	0
Payit in Roterdam, seing the stepill and Prince's schips, ...	0	12	0
For ane buff cot thair, ...	32	0	0
For ane succar-laiff[2] thair, ...	2	16	0
For reid wax thair, ...	0	0	6
Payit in Utricht, at the seing off the stepill and other churches and the Prince's hous and chappell thair, ...	1	4	0
To the poor at Utricht, and be the way to Rhyne,	0	3	0
Payit at ane brig twixt Rhyne and Arnem, .	0	4	0
Payit at the seing of the virgenells[3] at Arnhem, and for *The Current News*, and for careing our graith to the bott, ...	.0	9	0
Payit fraucht over the river Wall, . .	0	6	0
In Nimmikin kirk, the ii off Februar, to his Lordship, to giff the poor-box, . . .	0	4	0

[1] Board and lodging. [2] Sugar-loaf. [3] Probably, the organ.

Left with the Master off Crawfurd and Captan Mackenzie, when we went to Nimmikin, the 6 off Februar,	20	0	0
To the barber thair, for dressing his Lordship,	0	18	0
For Spanisch wyne thair,	1	2	0
To the drummers in Teyll,	3	0	0
Our supper in Bremmell, 13 off Februar,	8	2	0
Payit, seing the kirk thair,	0	4	0
Drink-silver,	℔	8	0
Payit, seing the kirk and stepill of Dort,	0	12	0
Payit in Syned-hous, for wyne and breid thair,	0	12	0
Payit at the seing of the copper mylne,	0	6	0
For Jon Barbar's dennir, that day we dyned with Sir Johne Swentone,	0	12	0
Our supper in Roterdam, 15 of Februar,	0	6	0
Drink-silver thair, and for beir, succar, and nutmuggs,	0	14	0
To the clarsocher[1] thair,	1	4	0
For clarsoch strings,	0	10	0
Payit in Delff, seing the saltpiter made, and seing the Spinhuis,	0	10	0
For ane new knyff to the gilt sword,	0	18	0
To Magnus, the clarsocher in Hag,	2	10	0
To Dingwell, the tailzer in Hag,	2	10	0
Supper in Harlem, and wyne, and fire,	6	14	0
And drink-silver thair,	0	6.	0
Seing the kirk and stepill thair,	0	12	0
Payit in Amsterdam, seing the stepill and Dulhous,[2]	0	13	0
For two matts and ane cod for his Lordship's bed,	11	2	0
For ane lock to the great cloth-bag, and for mending the iron work off it,	1	10	0

[1] *Clarsach* is the Gaelic word for *a harp*. [2] Probably, the Stadhuis.

For thrie glasses, and ane filler to the wynseller,	0	15	0
For ane new sword to his Lordship in Amsterdam, ...	0	15	0
Payit for mending and washing the Colonell's blew wastcot in Amsterdam, . . .	0	18	0
Payit for butter and cheiss in Amsterdam, which we took to the sea with us, . .	16	17	6
Payit in Amsterdam, for beir to the sea, .	6	12	0
For breid to the sea, and a creyll to carie it to the ship, ...	13	6	0

* * * * *

Suma of the Flemische money debursit be me, extends to the soume off 1337 gilders 3 stivers, which extends in Scotts money, compting the double angell at ij gilders 14 stivers, to the soume off 1523lbs. 16s. 8d. Scotts money, which being compronit with the 727lb. Scotts money debursit befoir, macks up 2250lb. 16s. 8d.'

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